

Body is somewhat that doth perfectly fill a determinate quantity of space or extension so as necessarily to exclude all other bodies from being comprehended within the same Dimensions.

I do therefore define a sensible Body to be a determinate Space or Extension defended from being penetrated by another, by a power from within.

To make this the more intelligible, Imagine a very thin plate of Iron, or the like, a foot square, to be moved with a Vibrative motion forwards and backwards the flat ways the length of a foot with so swift a motion as not to permit any other body to enter into that space within which it Vibrates, this will compose such an essence as I call in my sense a Cubick foot of sensible Body, which differs from the common notion of Body as this space of a Cubick foot thus defended by this Vibrating plate doth from a Cubick foot of Iron, or the like, throughout solid. The Particles therefore that compose all bodies I do suppose to owe the greatest part of their sensible or potential Extension to a Vibrative motion.

This Vibrative motion I do not suppose inherent or inseparable from the Particles of body, but communicated by Impulses given from other bodies in the Universe. This only I suppose, that the Magnitude or bulk of the body doth make it receptive of this or that peculiar motion that is communicated, and not of any other. That is, every Particle of matter according to its determinate or present Magnitude is receptive of this or that peculiar motion and no other, so that Magnitude and receptivity of motion seems the same thing: To explain this by a similitude or example. Suppose a number of musical strings, as A B C D E, &c. tuned to certain tones, and a like number of other strings, as *a, b, c, d, e*, &c. tuned to the same sounds respectively, A shall be receptive of the motion of *a*, but not of that of *b, c*, nor *d*; in like manner B shall be receptive of the motion of *b*, but not of the motion of

