

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been contacted by my dear friend, the one and only Ms. Joy Clare Perkinson, to solicit a letter of recommendation as to the position of Participant in your conversation regarding the permeability of the human dermal membrane by beef matter.

Allow me to open this missive by establishing my qualifications.

I am a saponist. Some would rather the more mundane term "soapmaker" to describe my activities, but I fear that such a base term cannot hope to capture the artistry in what I do.

Somewhat uniquely among those who pursue the saponic arts, I dedicate my pursuits exclusively to the creation of animal-fat based soaps, and moreover, I produce soap only from the fatty matter of animals I have slain of my own strength of arms. I am fortunate enough to have available to me a sizeable private island on which I may raise game and livestock to this end.

The processes that I pursue thus involve extensive rendering of animal carcasses into tallow and other fatty substances, in order to begin the saponification processes to arrive at the end results. As an intermediary in this process, of course, I am often left with large quantities of warm fatty substances in vats, as they cool from the rendering process. My appreciation of these substances began at first by accident, as I would attempt to judge their heat as they cooled, eventually tentatively lowering digits into the fat-filled vessels to determine their suitability for transfer to storage containers.

But as this went on, I grew a profound appreciation of the feel of warm animal fat upon the flesh, and have taken even to bathing in these vats as they cool. The feeling is much unto a warm bath and yet infinitely more comforting, as the warm fat presses upon your flesh, sharing its heat. It is like unto the contact of another being's flesh, but without all the ensuing awkward conversations.

The aftermath, of course, leaves one covered in a pleasant protective sheen, which can be removed when desired by the very soap products which are the end process of this ritual. Truly I find this a delightful symbiosis of purpose.

Well, yes. As to our mutual acquaintance Ms. Perkinson.

Over the course of our extended acquaintance, I have come to believe that she is possessed of a unique set of talents that render her distinctly suitable for this position.

First, I need hardly cite her scientific prowess, surely a prime condition for participation in your noble discourse. She is a scientist determined to the erudite pursuit of truth in nature the likes of which I have rarely been acquainted with.

Second, she has a deep and abiding relationship with nature and with natural products. I believe her propensity for snacking upon beeswax candles demonstrates a harmony with

natural products that will serve her well in this quest (I, myself, have been known to enjoy a good tallow candle on occasion).

And finally, she is a conversational nonpareil. Whether you need deep, abiding, inspection of the morality of the conversion of innocent animal flesh into gently scented soap products, or consideration of the nuances of the history of the Nazi empire, or even a reflection upon the significance of correctly aligning your 10Mhz TTL oscillator, I have rarely found a more scintillating source of conversation.

For all of these reasons, and more which gentlemanly brevity compels me to omit, I recommend her to your purpose with the highest of hopes for her success in this endeavour.

Yours, Rightly,

The Rt. Hon F. Edward Warburton, Esq.