

# Preface

This transcription of Nollet's travel diary is a corrected and modernized version of a typewritten transcript produced decades ago by Judy Fox at Berkeley under the supervision of the late Roger Hahn. Abigail Fields, a PhD candidate in the French Department at Yale, turned ink into pixels and devised criteria for the modernization of Nollet's prose. Jennifer Strtak, a PhD candidate in History and Early Modern Studies at Yale, gave the full transcript a close look and compared the digital to the original version to spot inaccuracies.

All modernizing changes were motivated by the desire to facilitate reading and do not affect the original text's content, style, or character. Examples of changes consistently applied are:

- oi → -ai (*avoit* → *avait*)
- u → -v (*auoir* → *avoir*)
- ei → -i (*desseins* → *dessins*)
- ay → -ai (*jay* → *j'ai*)
- y → -i (*mardy* → *mardi*)
- ette → -ète (*complete* → *complète*)

Obvious typos or grammatical errors were also changed without further explanation (for example, *coccons* → *cocons*, *ante* → *ente*), but not in the cases of names or places. In the *Journal*, Nollet sometimes capitalized words randomly or without clear reason (i.e., not to describe a proper noun). These instances were edited to reflect modern publication norms, resulting in the decapitalization of certain words. In some cases, capitalization seems to take the place of an accent (as in the word *Ecole*); in this situation, the word is transcribed in uncapitalized form with the proper accent (i.e., *école*). Capitalization was not edited when it could modify comprehension, notably with regard to proper nouns.

Punctuation was added or modified wherever appropriate in modern French. This was particularly relevant with regard to apostrophes (very few of which exist in the original text), as well as accents (particularly *accents aigus*, *accents graves*, and circumflexes). In some cases this choice resulted in a change in spelling, specifically when an -s was replaced by a circumflex (for example, *aoust* → *août*). We have also deleted the umlaut that Nollet frequently used in words that do not require it in modern French.

Punctuation was also added in cases of grammatical inaccuracy that affected meaning; for example, *ce temps là* → *ce temps-là*. Commas and other syntactic punctuation were added

sparingly, to facilitate reading and comprehension (especially in cases of long, run-on sentences). A relatively frequent correction in this category is the change from a semicolon to a comma, and from a semicolon or a colon to a full stop at the end of a sentence. This choice was rooted in an understanding of this text not as primarily literary (and thus based in aesthetic or stylistic norms of cultural production), but rather as a journal whose content (and documentary mission) is more important than the form. There is no reason to believe that Nollet's use of punctuation was informed by anything other than his own writing idiosyncrasies.

Title abbreviations were modernized where necessary:

M. = *monsieur* (changed from M<sup>r</sup>. in manuscript)

MM. = *messieurs* (changed from M<sup>ss</sup>. in manuscript)

Mme. = *madame* (changed from M<sup>de</sup>. in manuscript)

Mmes. = *mesdames* (changed from M<sup>des</sup>. in manuscript)

Mlle. = *mademoiselle* (changed from M<sup>delle</sup>. in manuscript)

Mlles. = *mesdemoiselles* (changed from M<sup>delles</sup>. in manuscript)

Mgr. = *Monseigneur* (no change from manuscript)

Verb tenses were, for the most part, maintained. That is, verbs conjugated in the simple past tense were maintained in that tense, even when orthography was changed to correct mistakes or misspellings. As a general rule, no change affects anything related to content, sequence or timeline, or narration.

The transcription, like the original text, is organized by date. Original pagination is indicated in parentheticals throughout the text, so that the reader may easily reference the original manuscript for the purposes of citation or further research. The original document is paginated recto-verso (i.e., 1, 1v, 2, 2v, etc.), which has been maintained in the transcription. In the original journal, Nollet makes use of the left margin to indicate the date or to include clarifying notes. In the transcription, the left margin is not used. Instead, a new date results in a section break. In order to increase readability and to follow modern publication norms, Nollet's additional notes are included as footnotes. In the original document, Nollet uses various symbols to indicate notes, including +, #, and \*. These have been left in the text when no note in the margin was found.

Occasionally, Nollet included sketches in the margins that have been reproduced from the original manuscript.

Symbols like *tt*, which indicates *livres*, and *Œ*, which indicates *sous*, have been replaced with the corresponding words in italics.

Proper nouns have always been transcribed as they appear in the original manuscript, even when the spelling is obviously incorrect. At the end of the transcription a list of places and names offers both the original and the correct spelling (in Italian), when known.