could not be executed by thofe great Kings of *Egypt*, that rai-
fed fo many ftupendious *Pyramids*; although in his Opinion
the reafons alleged by *Hiftorians* to juftifie them for having a-
bandoned that undertaking, are of no validity, and that the
Red Sea cannot be, as they feared, higher than the *Nile*, and
therefore not indanger the inundation of *Egypt*.

The other Propofition was made to *Charles Magne, Anno* 793.
for joyning the *Euxine* Sea and the *Ocean* together, by a Chan-
nel, which was begun for that end, and defigned to be 2000.
p ces long, and 100. paces broad, betwixt the River *Altmull*,
falling into the *Danube* above *Ratisbone*, and the River *Rott*, paf-
fing at *Nurenberg*, and thence running into the *Main*, and fo
into the *Rhine*. But yet this alfo proved abortive, though there
was great appearance of fuccefs at firft.

Of *A* Way of killing Ratle-Snakes.

There being not long fince occafion given at a meeting of
the *Royal Society* to difcourfe of *Ratle-Snakes*, that worthy and
inquifitive Gentleman, Captain *Silas Taylor*, related the man-
ner, how they were killed in *Virginia*, which he afterwards
was pleafed to give in writing, attefted by two credible perfons
in whofe prefence it was don; which is, as follows.

The Wild *Penny-royal* or *Ditany* of *Virginia*, groweth ftreight
ip about one foot high, with the leaves like *Penny royal*, with
ittle blue tufts at the joyning of the branches to the Plant, the
colour of the Leaves being a reddifh green, but the Water di-
ftilled, of the colour of Brandy, of a fair Yellow: the
Leaves of it bruifed are very hot and biting upon the Tongue:
and of thefe, fo bruifed, they took fome, and having tyed
them in the cleft of a long ftick, they held them to the Nofe of
the *Ratle-Snake*, who by turning and wriggling laboured as much
as fhe could to avoid it: but fhe was killed with it, in lefs than
half an hour's time, and, as was fuppofed, by the fcent thereof;
which was done *Anno* 1657. in the Month of *July*, at which feafon,
they repute thofe creatures to be in the greateft vigour for their
poifon.

F 2   *A Relation*