

Monſieur *Hauton* maintains, that his diſtill'd Sea-water (whereof I formerly wrote to you the proceſſe) is altogether ſalubrious. He proveth it *firſt* from Experience, it having been given to Men and Beaſts without any ill-effeſt at all upon them. *ſecondly*, from Reason, grounded on this, that that peculiar Earth, heretofore made mention of, being mixed with the diſtill'd Water, blunts the points of the Volatil Spirits of the Salt, and ſerveth them for ſheaths, if I may ſo ſpeak, taking away their force and maligne ſharpneſs, &c. *St. Germain*, October 30. 1670.

A Relation

Of the abundance of Wood, found under ground in Lincolnſhire; communicated by a Friend, well acquainted with that Country.

THat Fenny Tract, call'd the *Iſle of Axholme*, lying part in *Lincolnſhire* and part in *Yorkſhire*, and extending a conſiderable way, hath anciently been a Woody Country, witneſs the abundance of Oak, Firr, and other Trees, of late frequently found in the *Moore*; whereof ſome Oak are five yards in compaſs, and ſixteen yards long; others ſmaller and longer, with good quantities of Akorns near them, lying ſomewhat above three foot in depth, and near their roots, which do ſtill ſtand as they grew, *viz.* in firm Earth below the Moor. The Firrs lye a foot or eighteen Inches deeper, more in number than Oak, and many of them thirty yards long; one of them being, not many years ſince, taken up of *thirty ſix* yards long beſides the top; lying alſo near the root, which ſtood likewiſe as it grew, having been burnt and not cut down, as the Oak had been alſo. The Number of theſe trees is reported by Mr. *Dugdale*, in his Book of *Drayning the Fens in England* (where you will find this whole narrative confirm'd) to be ſo great, that the Inhabitants have, for divers years laſt paſt, taken up many Cart-loads in a year.

As to the firſt time of the overflowing of this Woody level, no Account is given, that I know of, not by the Inquiſitive and Learned Antiquary Mr. *Dugdale* himſelf. He only ſaith, that the
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the depth of the Moor evinceth, that it hath been so for divers hundreds of years, since *that* could not grow to that thickness it is of, in a few Ages. Of the Cause thereof he concludeth, that to have been the Muddiness of the constant Tydes, which flowing up *Humber* into *Trent*, left in time so much filth, as to obstruct the Currents of *Idle*, *Done*, and other Rivers, which thence flow'd back and overwhelm'd that flat Country.

A Description

Of the Stone-Quarry near Maestrich; communicated by an Observing Person, conversant in that Country.

THere is an excellent Quarry, within Canon-shot of *Maestrich*, upon the very brink of the River *Mase*, lying in a Hill, where there are about 25 fathoms of Rock and Earth over head; the length of the Hill being of some miles extending along the River towards *Liege*, situate on the same River; and near *Maestrich* having in breadth, some $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile, but some more, farther off. This Quarry hath one Entry towards the River, where Carts can pass with great ease, and unload the Stones upon the brink of the River, the Quarry within lying parallel to the Horizon or level, (which is a great advantage) and elevated but very little above the River.

This same Quarry, which hath, well nigh, undermin'd the whole Hill, affords one of the most surprizing Prospects, when well lighted with many Torches, that one can imagine. For, there are thousands of square Pillars in large level Walks, and those almost every where, above 20, and in some places, many more foot high, and all wrought with so much neatness and regularity, that one would think, it had been made rather with curious Workmanship for an under-ground Pallace, than that those Pillars and Galleries were made by Quarriers, that did it only for getting Stone to build above-ground.

This Quarry serveth the People, that live thereabout; for a kind of impregnable Retreat, when Armies march that way. For, being acquainted with all the ways in it, they carry into it whatsoever they would have safe, as well their Horse and Cattel, as their Moveable furniture, till the danger be over;
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