

a short time be supplied therewith, without being beholding to other nations for it.

5. To these particulars add the great abundance of *Iron-stone* in Virginia, which hath already been tryed and found very good; the conveniency of Wood and Lime-stone being a good inducement to the making of Iron, which might be done at a much less rate there than here. Of which there hath been a calculation formerly made, considering every mans labour, and what is necessary to be disbursed for every Artift and Labourer, as to their transportation, diet, and all other materials for the work of Iron. All which is referred to the consideration of those, who are concerned in a Matter of this importance.

*A Way of making Vines grow to advantage, all over the roof of a house; communicated by Mr. John Templer.*

I Have lately seen a pretty and pleasant culture of Vines at the house of a Gentleman, who makes very good White-wine of his own Grapes. He lets Vines ascend by one single stem to the Eaves of his house (cutting off all the luxuriant branches by the way,) then gives them liberty to spread upon the tiles, all over one side the roof of his house. Thus he furnishes his dwelling house, and many out-houses; by which means the vines are no hinderance to his other Wall-fruit, and the rays of the Sun being almost direct upon the Vines, he hath riper, sweeter and greater plenty of grapes, than when their vines are placed as Wall-fruit.

*An Observation, made by the same Mr. Templer upon the Motion of the Hearts of two Urchins, after their being cut out.*

— **W**Hen I had written thus far, I was diverted by a couple of living *Urchins*, which were presented me by a Shepherd. I shall now mention no more than my cutting out their Hearts: whereupon I found the *Systole* and *Diastole* to continue full two hours, while the hearts lay upon a glazed earthen white plate in a cold window. The distance  
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of their *Diastoles* was unequal in time, but very large for half an hour, and then sensibly diminishing until they ceased at the two hours distance; and would not then be re-inforced by a needles point, which for the half hour preceeding they would answer at any time. But here I must ask, shall we call these Hearts dead after the first hour? If so, than that Paralytical arm is much more dead, which is deprived of Sense but not of Motion; a famous instance whereof the Immortal *Harvey* gives us somewhere, (I cannot quote the place, not having seen the book since the flames consum'd my Library,) in his *Exercit. de Gener. Animalium*; since this Heart had not only Motion, but Sense too, upon the pricking with the point of a needle.

If you object, That the pricking of a needle made a compression of the fibres, and, by consequence, of the included Spirits, and they by vertue of their own Spring rebounding imitated a Diastole of the heart: I answer, that after the Hearts had ceased above  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an hour, so as a needle pricking them caused no Motion; yet upon setting the plate upon the hearth in the Chimney, in about two minutes of time they began to beat, though but weakly; and upon eight minutes continuance they beat freely; and when removed into the window again, continued their pulsation, without pricking, above an hour, and might have done longer, could I have spared my servant to attend them longer. Peradventure we may hence conjecture at the cause of Life and Death. And when shall we say then, any Animal or Insect is dead, if it hath Motion?

*Some Communications out of Turkey, by persons residing there.*

There is a Disease, which reigns in the Country about *Aleppo*, and as far as *Bagdat*, invading both sexes, all sorts of ages, and strangers as well as natives. 'Tis commonly call'd *Il mal d' Aleppo*, and appears to be in the skin a small *pustula* or wheal hard and red, the head whereof is scarce bigger at the beginning than the point of a pin; afterwards growing bigger, and being nourish't by five or six little roots or fibres, it goes on to its height for the space of about 6 months; and in as many more comes to its declination: So that the whole pe-

riod of this disease is generally compris'd within the space of one year. But this *Pustula* hath hitherto yielded to no remedies, neither in the beginning, middle, or declination, but hath rather been exasperated by them, though they were *anodyna*. It is wholly to be left to Nature, and, if you do so, there is no pain or trouble in it. It takes people not once, but often, and it seizeth on several parts of the body; and if it do so on the face (as often it doth) it causes a remarkable scar, which yet by little and little vanisheth.

As to *Feavers* at and about *Aleppo*, though they have the same *Type* there as in *England*; yet there are two things peculiar in them. One is, that in Acute feavers, Cold sweat commonly signifies recovery, but Hot sweat portends death. The other is, that in such acute feavers even an intermitting pulse denounces no danger.

Touching the *Leprosy*, which anciently was so frequent a malady in these Countreys, 'tis now scarce to be found there, though at *Damascus* there is still an Hospital standing, formerly built for the relief of persons thus diseas'd.

As for the reason, why the City of *Constantinople* is so much subject to the *Plague*; some are of opinion, that the multitude of Slaves, yearly brought by the *Black-Sea*, and their hard diet and usage, begets this corruption: Others judg, that the commonalty there, feeding for the greatest part of Summer on Cucumbers and Melons, and drinking water upon them, without the Use of helps to correct the crudities, fall into malignant and pestilential feavers. But the Physicians generally conclude, That the Air of *Constantinople* is infected by the North-East-winds, which blow commonly for 3 months, beginning about the Summer-solstice arising from unwholesome Marshes in *Tartary* and *Muscovy*, and passing over the *Black-Sea*, (a place known to abound with Fogs,) bring with them certain dispositions tending to corruption; which working upon bodies already prepared by bad diet, may well be judg'd, they say, to be the cause of this distemper.

Besides the other uses of *Opium* in *Turky*, 'tis common in *Arabia*, to cure Horses with it of the Gripping of the Guts.

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As to the *Turky way of dressing Leather*, it is to be observ'd, that their Leather is nothing so strong and serviceable as that in *England*; an assured proof whereof is the Wearing. And though it be commonly reported, that the Leather in these parts, though thin and supple, will hold out water; yet this is to be understood, that the Turks in their winter-boots, between the lining and the leather, put a Sear-cloth, which being curiously sow'd in the seams, will keep out water, though you put them in it for divers hours together. In cleaning of their leather, they use Lime and *Album Gracum*; and instead of Barks of trees, they employ *Valonia*, a sort of acorn growing on the Oakes. I am persuaded, that our Acorns in *England*, if they could be spar'd for it, would perform the like effect, and perhaps better; seeing that many times the *Valonia* burns the Leather so much as to make it little serviceable; whereas our acorns are probably more temperate, and so might better serve the turn.

#### An Account of two Books.

*II. Vini Rhenani, imprimis BACCARACENSIS, Anatomia Chymica, à Joh. Davide, Portzio Phil. et Med. D. Heidebergæ, 1672. in 12°.*

**T**HIS Author treateth in this Book of the Soile proper for Rhinish Wine; of the kinds of that Vine and Grape; and of the Must, Wine, Spirit, Tartar, Vinegar, and particularly of the two Salts, the *Acid* and *Alkali*, as the chief Ingredients of Wine, and according to *Tasbeius*, of all natural things.

Speaking of the fertility of the *soil* proper for Vines, and discoursing of the Nitrous Salt coming down in rain and snow, he delivers a way of collecting that Salt; of which we leave the skilful to judge upon the reading of the Book.

The *Grape* he affirms to be compounded of an Acid and a prevalent Alkali; observing, that grapes that are thin-skin'd grow sooner ripe, and thrive even in a temperat. climat; and taking also notice, that struck with hail when they are big and begin to ripen, they harden and never grow full ripe.

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