

PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS.

May 24. 1675.

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Some Reflexions on the Transactions of April 1675; sent to the Publisher in a Letter out of the Country.

I Thank you heartily for *Aprils* Transactions. And I am glad, that my Papers did not exclude any of those particulars. If Dr. *Leibnitz* his Watch satisfies Experience, 'tis considerable. *Hevelius* his accurateness prepares fresh work for Astronomers. *Borrichius* may be *Cos veritatis*, to excite and provoke great Discoveries in Chymistry. 'Tis an excellent pen
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which gave you the *Sea-sand of Cornwall*: In which special notice ought to be taken, 1. Of the profit compared to Tin and Fish. 2. That the Land-carriage, (besides the charge of Lighterage) amounts to about 32000 *l. per annum*. 3. That such a vast difference of the Air is found in so little a distance, that a man may in an Afternoon travel as it were out of *Spain* into the *Orcades*. In which latter note, besides the arguteness, a deep hint in Philosophy. I have remarked Springs and Soyle to the very same purpose. Note also *pag. 296.* this proposal for Chymists, to *open the body of Sand, &c.* We find also by common Experience, that some Stones, and some Gravel (as such) without other circumstances, are much more impregnating than other. And I found, how to place some Stones above ground, some at a certain depth under ground, for surer fertility; and so for Sand and Gravel also.

But I wish, you could meet an intelligent man, who could find out some probable ground to proceed in a way of Calculation, What profit may be raised by any late Invention or any old devise for Soyle; for example,

1. The Land-carriage of Sea-sand in *Cornwall* 32000 *l. per annum*.
2. The Lighterage. Some grounds are offered in the said Tract of yours for a probable sum.
3. What profit the Husbandman there expects, and, *communibus annis*, enjoys?
4. How many Labourers are by the same, or other appendages, employed and rewarded? For, if nothing were gained above a narrow livelyhood to the Husbandman; yet the sum for Lighterage and Carriage is great, towards the employment of the poor, which is very much *bono publico*.