1 Oct. 1886.

My dear Sir

I return your list for reference.

No. I. is attributed in our catalogue to Thomas Stretzer? I cannot find the name in any bibliography nor does he appear in our catalogue as the author of any other works. In naming him in our catalogue as the author of the book we have only the authority of a note made on the fly-leaf of the book by some former possessor.

2. "The Potent Alby," is attributed to Charles Cotton? in our catalogue; also on the authority of a note on the fly-leaf.

The book is not included in the list of Cotton's works in any of the bibliographies; indeed I should think it not at all likely that it is by him. "The Story of Pandora's Box" which forms part of the book is translated from C. Quillet's by Nicholas Rowe.

Nos. 3 and 4 are both in the Museum Library, but I am sorry to say that I can throw no light upon their authorships.

Mr. Garnett asks me to thank you for your message to him and to give you his kind regards, in. I need not say how pleased I shall always be to be of the smallest use to you.

I am, My dear Sir
Very truly Yours
G. K. Fortescue

Am Herrn
F. C. Elze
20 Albrechtstrasse
Halle
N. Germany

G.R.7.

PANDORA, lovely Fair, QUEEN-Regent reign'd;
And, with her Casket-dire, the Land inflam'd.

A

NEW DESCRIPTION

OF

MERRYLAND.

Containing, A

TOPOGRAPHICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL,

AND

NATURAL HISTORY of That COUNTRY.

Desine [quapropter] *Novitate* exterritus ipsa
Expuere ex Animo Rationem; sed magis acri
Judicio, perpende, &, si tibi vera videtur,
Dede Manus; aut, si falsa est, accingere contra.

LUCRET. *Lib.* 2.

Fly no *Opinion*, Friend, because 'tis *New*;
But strictly search, and after careful View,
Reject if *False*, *embrace* it, if 'tis *True*.

CREECH's *Translat.*

THE SEVENTH EDITION.

BATH,

Printed: And sold by J. LEAKE there; and by E. CURLL, at *Pope's Head* in *Rose-street*, *Covent-Garden*. M.DCC.XLI.

[Price 1 *s.* 6 *d.*]

TO

GEORGE CHEYNE,

M.D. C.R. Ed.S. & S.R.S.

SIR,

IT is my Misfortune not to have the Honour of a personal Acquaintance with any GREAT MAN, to whom, with a tolerable Grace, I could apply the usual Panegyric, which Custom has made so necessary an Ingredient in DEDICATIONS: But turning my Thoughts to those, with whose *learned Works*, and *Labours for the public Good*, I am better acquainted, than with their Persons, YOU, SIR, immediately occurred as the *propereſt Patron* for the following Work.

DEDICATION.

Whether I consider you as an *eminent Physician*, as a Member of that learned Society, of which you are also one of the Greatest Ornaments, or as a *Philosopher*, endowed with an infinite Fund of Knowledge in Natural and Experimental Philosophy; whatever Light I view you in, your Accomplishments are so resplendent, so universally known, and admired, that no Lustre can be added to them by the greatest Encomiums: Their intrinsic Excellence takes away all possibility of *Flattery*, and I blush as much at my Incapacity of giving you your *just Due*, as You would at ascribing more than they deserved, to *others*.

These Considerations *make this Work your peculiar Property*, and are very urgent Inducements for Addressing it to You, especially, as I have thereby the Advantage of exempting myself from that Hardship which attends

tends moſt Dedicators, of *inventing* the Virtues they celebrate.

To do Juſtice to your great Abilities, both as a Phyſician and Philoſopher, to deſcribe your amiable genteel Addreſs, and polite Behaviour, your generous Contempt of Money, and Abhorrence of Adulation, with the reſt of your " Chriſtian Virtues, " which are not only univerſally *admi-* " *red*, but *felt*," would be a Task too difficult for any *ſentient* or *intelligent Being*, incumbered with the *Adamical Cruſt of Clay*, and can never be executed with *Infallibility*, *Illability*, and *Impeccability*, but by thoſe who, after a *progreſſive Purification*, are *developed* and *mundified* of that *Plaiſter or Vehicle of a denſer and coarſer Element*, *ſuperinduced over the primitive ætherial Body*, by which the Spirits are *infinitely condenſed*, *concentered and incraſſated*.

Your

DEDICATION.

Your learned Works, *Sir, deriving from their Author a Ray, Efflux, or infinitesimal Emanation*, are above the Reach of Critics, and by sending this into the World under your Patronage, I hope the *extreme Tenderness and Delicacy of its lumbaginous State* will be protected from the *noxious and deleterious Qualities* of those envious Wretches, " the Powers of whose " Souls are sunk, concentered, im- " prisoned, and contracted to a *Punc-* " *tum Saliens*, by their unformed Ta- " bernacle or Organical Vehicle, and " cannot exert their intellectual Func- " tions." These Critics " have, by " wrong or no Culture, *stunted* the " Organs of their Faculties, and by a " perpetual *Mal-Regimen* distorted " them; and like our Planet, have " so many untoward and oblique " Symptoms of a designed *Deterio-* " *rity*, that they are not fit to *Com-* " *merciat* with our Bodies: Like " the *Scuttle-Fish*, they spout out

" their

" their own *black Liquor* on the pel-
" lucid Element." In return for these bad Qualities, I wish them no other *Exacerbation*, or any thing more *deleterious*, than a strict Confinement to an abstemious *vegetable Regimen*, and an *aqueous Beverage*.

I shall not make any farther Intrusion on your precious Time, or divert it longer from your *Philosophical Studies*, but submit the following Work to your Perusal at a leisure Hour.

As you are now past the *Meridian*, and the " *hyperbolic Curve of Life* is
" at the Point of returning downwards
" again," it is not to be expected, you can enjoy the Pleasure of making any more Journies to MERRYLAND; but, " since all *sentient* and *intelligent*
" Beings are made for Happiness, and
" will by mere Instinct seek it *some-how*,
" or *some-where*, I hope the following
" Chapters will supply you with some
" suitable

" suitable *Entertainment* and *Amuse-*
" *ment*, with which your leisure
" Hours may be agreeably diverted,
" while you continue in this *lapsed*,
" *expiatory* and *progressive State*," till you gradually put off this *Adamical Tabernacle*, and slide into another, according to the general Laws of *Purification*, till at last you arrive at that *fixed* and *permanent State* designed for you in the universal *System* of Intelligences.

I beg leave to assure you, that I have the most " vehement *Willings*, " *Longings*, *Volitions*, and *Velleities*," to approve myself,

SIR,

Your great Admirer,
most humble,
and
most obedient Servant,

The EDITOR.

Bath, 20 *Oct.* 1740.

THE

EDITOR

TO THE

READER.

IT is become an Obſervation, trite enough, that when any Work, like This, which is new and curious, makes its Appearance in the World, almoſt every one is deſirous to have ſome Account of the Author.

To ſatisfy therefore in ſome Meaſure this common Curioſity, I ſhall acquaint my Reader with all that I have been able to learn concerning the Writer of the following Sheets.

His Name I find to be ROGER PHEUQUEWELL, with the Addition of *Eſq*; deſcended from an ancient Family

in *Ireland*, remarkable for their being Red-Headed, of great Note, and of *long ſtanding* in that Country. He was the youngeſt Brother of nine, and conſequently could have no great Patrimony to begin the World withal, and therefore in the Year 1717, he came to *London* to ſeek his Fortune, as ſeveral of his Relations had ſucceſsfully done before him; he was then in the full Vigour of Youth, bleſs'd with great Abilities, a good Addreſs, a moſt advantageous Stature, and well proportioned graceful Shape, and otherwiſe well qualified. All theſe Advantages ſoon recommended him to the moſt inward Favour of a rich Widow, whom he in a ſhort Time married, and during her Life was genteelly maintained by her Jointure. He made frequent Journies to MERRYLAND in her Life-tine; but after her death, he took a Fancy to be almoſt continually going and coming, and ſpent ſo much in theſe Journies, that

that he was reduced to very low Circumſtances, and retired at laſt to *Boulogne* in *France*, where he died the 19th of *April* 1738, N. S. and at his death the following Sheets were found among his other Papers.

He was lodged at a *Hotelere* in that Town, the Maſter of which had a near Acquaintance with a *Capuchin* Fryar, whom he called to his Aſſiſtance in examining the Papers of the deceaſed. To be ſhort, the Fryar upon looking ſome time into the Manuſcript, cried out to the Hotelere, or Landlord, "Here is a Curioſity, I believe, "that will pay, not only what is ow-"ing to you for Bed and Board, but "will, over and above that, put Money "in your Pocket;" and ſo he voluntarily offered to tranſlate it into *French* for his Benefit.

Accordingly this was done, but the *Capuchin* not being a ſufficient Ma-

ſter of the *Engliſh* Tongue to do Juſtice to the Author, the Book was publiſhed with ſo many Errors and Miſtakes, that the Writer himſelf, had he been alive, could not have known it for his own.

It's firſt Step into the World (thus deformed) was no longer after the Author's Death than the Middle of *June* following, and notwithſtanding all its Blemiſhes, it met with ſo good a Reception in *France*, that it is now ſome Months ſince it went through the ſixth Edition at *Paris*.

Soon after the firſt Publication, our Author was ſo well reliſhed in *Madrid*, that a *Spaniſh* Tranſlation was publiſhed there by *Don Juan Compoſtella il Tarragona*, dedicated to the Archbiſhop of *Saragoſſa*, but this Verſion was not leſs faulty than that of the Fryar.

An

An *Italian* has done the Author more Juſtice, for which Reaſon it was thought he had, by ſome means or other, procured an *Engliſh* Copy: This was publiſhed at *Rome*, in *March* 1739, and altho' the Tranſlator is not certainly known, it is ſuppoſed to be the Work of *an eminent Cardinal*, whoſe Name I am not at Liberty to mention.

Nor was it long after, that a neat Edition was publiſhed at *Dantzick*, in the *Poliſh* Language, by one *Venskousky Wiſniawisky*, and another much about the ſame time in *Daniſh*, printed at *Copenhagen*, by *Gaſpar Gluckſtat*; not to mention the *Dutch* and *German* Editions, which would be too tedious to enumerate in this Place.

It may perhaps be allowed, that there is not a great deal to be ſaid in Com-

Commendation of our Author's Diction; but then it may be anſwered, that a Work of ſo grave and ſerious a Nature, could not well admit of thoſe Flowers and Ornaments, which embelliſh Subjects of Wit and Humour. However, it is more than probable, he would have corrected the Style, as the laſt Hand to the Work, before he put it to the Preſs, had not Death prevented him.

Notwithſtanding any accidental Diſadvantages that have attended this Work, it has, like the Palm, flouriſhed in Spite of all Oppreſſion: And it is evident, that the ſurpriſingly good Reception it has met with, in ſo many different and ſo far diſtant Countries, could not have happened, but from the *Truth* and *Novelty* of the Subject. It would therefore be very difficult to account for any thing ſo extraordinary, as that ſo valuable a Piece ſhould never have ſpoke its own

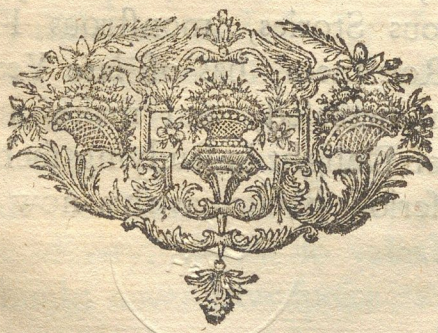
Lan-

Language (if I may be allowed the Expreſſion) till this Time; eſpecially when we conſider how many of our Countrymen have been travelling abroad in the time of which we are ſpeaking, how much Diligence is daily made uſe of to procure any thing that is *new*, in all Parts of *Europe*; and laſtly, that we have ſo many Tranſlators (of the *French* in particular) that hardly any thing, new or old, can eſcape their Labour. I am unwilling to attribute this long Neglect in *England* of ſo valuable an Author, to any greater Depravity in our Taſte, or leſs Reliſh for uſeful Learning than our Neighbours; tho' I am much afraid, our Fondneſs for Fairy-Tales, fabulous Stories, monſtrous Fictions and Romances, has of late Years too much increaſed, and makes us take the leſs Delight in ſtudying ſuch grave and ſerious Books, as this now before us.

I ſhall

I ſhall detain the Reader no longer, but only to aſſure him that I have taken all poſſible Care to make this Edition correct, having luckily had an Opportunity of ſeeing the original Manuſcript with which this was carefully collated.

Upon the whole, I think, I may reaſonably hope to ſee this valuable Work at laſt kindly received in *England*, and go thro' as many Editions here, as it has done in *France*, and is likely to do in almoſt all the Countries in *Europe*.



PREFACE
BY THE
AUTHOR.

FAvoured by indulgent Providence with twenty Years Experience, and frequent Opportunities of acquainting myself with the Situation and Circumstances of MERRYLAND, *I have at length finished my Inquiries into* The Present State *of that Country, and disposed the Materials I have collected, in such a Manner as, I presume, will give every one, who desires to be informed, a tolerable Idea of the Country I have described.*

It must be confessed however, there still remains some Part of this delightful Country undiscovered, and that there are many Laws, Customs, and Curiosities, of which we have hitherto a very imperfect Knowledge. Of these I have chosen to say little or nothing,

rather than amuſe Mankind with the uncertain Gueſſes and fabulous Relations of idle Travellers, who obſerving the Weakneſs of the Generality of Readers, and their Guſt for every Thing that carries an Air of Novelty and Wonder, entertain them principally with Whimſies of their own Brains.

Since the World is no longer to be amuſed with the fabulous Relations of Travellers and Hiſtorians, any more than with the Dreams of Superſtition and Enthuſiaſm; an Attempt to diſtinguiſh Truth from Fiction, and to diſcover the Certainty of thoſe Accounts we have received of MERRYLAND, *it is preſumed, will not be unacceptable to this diſcerning Age. Relations monſtrous and unnatural may pleaſe the Weak and Indolent, but Truth and Nature only can ſatisfy the Wiſe: My Deſign therefore is to examine what others have publiſhed of*

this

this wonderful and delicious Country, to compare them one with another, and with my own Obſervations, in order to ſift out the Truth. And having ſearched narrowly into the State of this Country myſelf, and been converſant with many People, whoſe Inclinations led them to make Inquiries, and whoſe good Luck gave them frequent Opportunities of ſatisfying their Curioſities; I ſay, having made it my Buſineſs to inform myſelf from all the intelligent Travellers I have met with, and added their Remarks to my own, I hope I ſhall not be deemed altogether unqualified for ſuch an Undertaking.

I need not ſay how uſeful and neceſſary a Work of this Nature will be to the World. I ſhall only obſerve, that no-body has ever attempted it before in this Method; and it is ſomewhat ſurpriſing, that all the modern Geographers, ſuch as Cluverius, Ortelius, Cellarius, *&c. ſhould be en-*

tirely ſilent about ſo remarkable a Country, which was diſcovered many Ages ago, and was well known to the Ancients; as appears by Beroſus *a* Chaldean, *who wrote the Hiſtory of* Babylon *in the Time of* Antiochus Soter; *and* Herodotus, *the moſt ancient Writer among the* Greeks *(whoſe Works have reached us) ſpeaks of this Country, as a Place well known in thoſe Days. It is as certain too, that the old* Academics, Peripatetics, *and* Stoics, *were tolerably well acquainted with this Country, as appears by ſome of their own Works, as well as by the Teſtimony of other Authors; and the great* Metrodorus, *who was a Scholar of* Epicurus, *was frequently there. Our* Engliſh *Geographers take no Notice of it; Mr.* Moll *in his* Atlas *has entirely omitted it, and the learned Mr.* Gordon *makes no mention of it, neither has Mr.* Salmon *ſaid a Word of it in his* Modern Hiſtory, or Preſent State of all Nations; *nor have*

Mr.

Mr. Cusshee, *or Mr.* Senex, *given it a Place in their Globes.*

I cannot imagine these Gentlemen so ignorant as to be entirely unacquainted, that there is such a Country; but as it is not my Business to account for their Omissions, I shall say no more of them, but that their Silence has rendered this Work of mine the more necessary. How well I have executed it, or how far it is still deficient, must be submitted to the candid and impartial Reader. I shall not be at all surprised, if some censorious People blame me for my bold Attempt, and others find fault with the Performance; this is what I expect, and am prepared for by that Distich of Mimnermus,

Oblectes Animum; plebs est morosa legendo,
Ille benè de te dicet, at ille malè.

I shall,

I ſhall conclude this Preface with wiſhing the Reader may find all the Pleaſure and Satisfaction he can deſire in peruſing this ſhort Work. If it affords him no Improvement, *I may venture to promiſe it will at leaſt give him ſome* Entertainment. *But leſt any thing I might ſay here, ſhould be ſuſpected of Partiality, I ſhall decline adding any thing more of myſelf, but lay before my Reader the following Opinion of that truly learned and Right Reverend Prelate the Biſhop of* London, *who ſays,*

" *Of all the Studies to which Men*
" *are drawn, either by Inclination or*
" *Intereſt, perhaps no one can pre-*
" *tend to ſuch an agreeable Pleaſure,*
" *as the* DESCRIPTION OF COUN-
" TRIES. *By a Variety of Pro-*
" *ſpects, they feed us conſtantly with*
" *freſh Satisfactions; and the Objects*
" *they preſent are ſo chained together,*
" *that*

" that a curious Reader has much " ado to break off. This is the Ad- " vantage of that Subject in gene- " ral." But when we come to Af- fairs that Nearly concern us, the Re- lish is still heightened in Proportion to every One's Love for the Country treated of.

THE

THE

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A

NEW DESCRIPTION OF *MERRYLAND.*

CHAP. I.

Of the NAME *of* MERRYLAND, *and whence it is* so called.

THE *Names* of most Countries have been much altered from those they were formerly known by; and even at this Day, different Nations, nay, People of the same Country, give different Names to the same Place. MERRYLAND, like other Countries, has been known under great Variety of Names, and perhaps now has as various Appellations as any Part of the Creation: It is not my Purpose to trouble the Reader with a long Recital of them, nor to dispute which is the most proper; let it suffice in these Pages to call it MERRYLAND, so named (as the learned Antiquarians inform us) from the *Greek* Word μυρίζω, i.e. *Unguentis inungo*, alluding to the unctuous Nature of the Soil, or perhaps to the Practice of some People in that Country, of whom the Historians say, *In Lætitiâ Unguentis utebantur*,

erantque μεμυρομένοι, i. e. *Unguentis & Oleo delibuti*, from the transporting Delight that it gives. By the *French* it is called *Terre-Gaillarde*, from the *Greek* ἀγαλλιάω, *Lætitiâ exulto*, or from γαῖα, *Lætor*. Either of these Derivations seem to me very plausible, and have very significant Reference to the wonderful Delight People enjoy in MERRYLAND, as will be more fully related in the succeeding Chapters: However, far be it from me to presume absolutely to fix this Derivation as infallible; it being a Matter of great Consequence to the learned World, I shall with all Humility submit it to the more judicious Determination of the learned and useful SOCIETY of ANTIQUARIANS: In the mean-while I am pretty much confirmed in the Justness of this Etymology by the *High-German* and *Dutch* Names of MERRYLAND, the first calling it Frolich-landt, and the other Urolick-landt, both which agree in the same Signification, and in my humble Opinion clear up the Matter almost beyond Dispute.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Of the Situation of MERRYLAND.

MERRYLAND is a Part of that vast Continent called by the *Dutch* Geographers, the Uroisslandtscap; it is situate in a *low* Part of the Continent, bounded on the upper Side, or to the Northward, by the little Mountain called MNSVNRS, on the East and West by COXASIN and COXADEXT, and on the South or lower Part it lies open to the TERRA-FIRMA.

There is something very remarkable and surprising as to the *Longitude* and *Latitude* of this Country, neither of which could ever yet be fixed to any certain Degree; and it is pretty evident, however strange it may seem, that there are as great *Variations* both of the Latitude and Longitude in MERRYLAND, as of the Mariner's Compass in other Parts of the World: To confirm this, I beg leave to assure the Reader of a Matter of Fact, which, if he be an entire Stranger to MERRYLAND, he will perhaps scarce have Faith to believe; but they who have any tolerable Experience and Knowledge of the Country, will be so far from discrediting, that I do not doubt but they will be ready to confirm it by their own Observation.*

 Know

* But now attend; I'll teach thee something *new*,
'Tis *strange*, but yet 'tis Reason, and 'tis *true*:

Ev'n

Know then, courteous Reader, ſoon after my firſt Entrance into this wonderful and delightful Country (having as prying a Curioſity as moſt Men) I endeavoured to get the beſt Inſight that was poſſible in every Thing relating to the State of MERRYLAND, obſerving with diligent Attention every thing the Country afforded that was remarkable either in *Art* or *Nature*, all which I intend to communicate to the Publick in the following Sheets. Among other things I made very accurate Obſervations both of the *Latitude* and *Longitude*, and may venture to ſay, there could be no conſiderable Miſtake in my Obſervations, as they were made with a *proper Inſtrument*, *of a large Radius*, and in perfect good Order; nay, I have been aſſured, when I was in MERRYLAND, that my Inſtrument was inferior to none: But ſome Years after, happening to be there again, and repeating the Experiment, I found both Latitude and Longitude increaſed many Degrees, tho' I tried in the ſame Spot, and with the ſame Inſtrument as before. It may, perhaps, be ſuſpected, that my Inſtrument might have ſuffered ſince the firſt Experiment was made, (as it is well

Ev'n what we now with greateſt Eaſe receive,
Seem'd ſtrange at firſt, and we could ſcarce believe:
And what we wonder at, as Years increaſe,
Will ſeem more plain, and all our Wonders ceaſe.
CREECH's Lucret. B. II.

known

known the beſt are liable to Damage by Time and frequent Uſe) but that was not the Caſe; for tho' mine had, I muſt confeſs, been often uſed, yet it was with ſuch prudent Care and Caution, that it was in as great Perfection as ever; and even at this Day I could venture to recommend it as a tolerable good one, tho' I have had it above theſe 30 Years, and uſed it pretty freely, and with great Satisfaction to myſelf and others.

That the Latitude and Longitude then were evidently and conſiderably increaſed, is Matter of Fact beyond Diſpute; but how to account for ſo wonderful a Phœnomenon I muſt leave to others, and ſhould think it well worthy the Conſideration of that curious and learned Body, the *Royal Society:*

Felix, qui potuit rerum cognoſcere Cauſas.
VIRGIL.

That they may have all the Hints and Information towards it, which my Experience can afford, I muſt acquaint them, that this ſurpriſing Increaſe of Latitude and Longitude in MERRYLAND, ſeldom fails to happen, after having a *fruitful Seaſon* in that Country (as had been the Caſe when my Experiment was laſt made) ſo much does it increaſe, that after a few Years one would ſcarce believe he was in the ſame Part of the World; nor is its Fruitfulneſs the only Cauſe of

of this Variation; frequent tilling the Soil, tho' it ſhould prove utterly barren, or no Seed be ſown in it, is obſerved in ſome meaſure to produce the ſame Effect.

This extraordinary Alteration of the Latitude is not at all agreeable, but the greater Degree it extends to, the leſs delightful is the Country to its Inhabitants: on which Conſideration ſome Projectors have been induced to try ſeveral Methods (and as they pretend with Succeſs) for reducing the Latitude, when too much augmented, and by that means reſtore MERRYLAND, at leaſt in Appearance, to its primitive State; but they muſt be ignorant People indeed, who can be impoſed on by ſuch Practices; yet ſuch it ſeems there have been, but they are juſtly laughed at for their Credulity, and by no-body more, than by the very Perſons who ſo eaſily deceived them.

I need ſay no more of the Situation of this Country, but after the Example of that excellent Geographer Mr. *Patrick Gordon* (who in his *Geographical Grammar* tells us what Place is the *Antipodes*, or oppoſite Part of the Globe to the ſeveral Countries he treats of) I ſhall conclude this Chapter by informing the curious Reader, that the *Antipodes* to MERRYLAND is by ſome ſaid to be that prominent Part of the Continent called PDX, known in *High Dutch* by the Name of der Arsz-back; others affirm the *Antipodes* to be in the very uttermoſt

uttermost Point of the Promontory CPT; but as it is not my Intention to concern myself in these Disputes, but stick as close as may be to my Subject, I shall leave the Affair of the *Antipodes* to those who have a *Taste* that Way; only shall observe, there are some People who very preposterously (as I think) give the Preference to the PDX: the *Italian* Geographers are pretty much inclined that Way; some of the *Dutch* have likewise come into it, and of late Years a few in *Great-Britain* have appeared not altogether averse to it.

CHAP. III.

Of the AIR, SOIL, RIVERS, CANALS, *&c.*

THE AIR in MERRYLAND is very different, being in some Provinces perfectly pure and healthy, in others extreamly gross and pestilential; for the most part it may be said to be like the Air in *Holland*, "*generally* "*thick and moist, by reason of the frequent* "*Fogs which arise from its Lakes and Canals*," yet it is mostly very pleasant and agreeable to the Inhabitants, tho' it cannot always be said to be wholesome. In the most healthful Provinces it agrees well with young and vigorous Constitutions; but for old Men, or those who are consumptive, this Country is at best esteemed very pernicious, especially if they enjoy it too much, which many are tempted

tempted to, by the bewitching Pleasantness of the Place, of which we may say with *Solomon*, " *How fair and how pleasant art Thou, O* " *Love, for Delights!*"

The Climate is generally warm, and sometimes so very hot, that Strangers inconsiderately coming into it, have suffered exceedingly; many have lost their Lives by it, some break out into Sores and Ulcers difficult to be cured; and others, if they escape with their Lives, have lost a Member. It is certain there can be no Distemper more to be dreaded than this, occasioned by the Heat of the Climate in MERRYLAND; the Curious may see it particularly described, with all its hideous Symptoms, by our Countryman *Bartholomew Glanville* (who flourished about the Year 1360) in his Book *De Proprietatibus Rerum*, translated by *John Trevisa*, Vicar of *Barkeley*, in 1398. But notwithstanding this Inconvenience is so well known, so bewitchingly tempting is the Country, that People will too frequently rush into it without Caution, or Consideration of their Danger; even those who know the ill Consequence, from dear-bought Experience, are not always deterred from precipitantly repeating the same Folly; nay, so remarkable is this Rashness in the Inhabitants of MERRYLAND, that it is become a common Proverb to say *they have no Forecast*. But this dangerous Heat of the Climate, with all its dreadful Concomitants, is not so very terrible, but it may be

guarded

guarded against by taking proper Precautions, and People might venture into it without much Hazard, even at the worst Seasons, and in the most unhealthy Provinces; they need no more to avoid the Danger, but be careful always to wear *proper Cloathing*, of which they have a Sort that is very commodious, and peculiarly adapted to this Country; it is made of an extraordinary fine thin Substance, and contrived so as to be all of one Piece, and without a Seam, only about the Bottom it is generally bound round with a scarlet Ribbon for Ornament. This *Cloathing* has been found so useful, that a modern Bard thought fit to write a Poem in its Commendation, and has most elegantly celebrated its Praises in Blank Verse.

Sometimes the Climate is as much on the other Extreme, *cold*, to a great Degree; but this rarely happens, nor has it any bad Effect on the Inhabitants, otherwise than by being disagreeable and uncomfortable to live in.

In general the Country is warm enough, and so exceedingly delightful, that every Man at first coming into it is transported with Pleasure; the very Sight of MERRYLAND, or any near Approach to it, puts one in strange Raptures, and even in dreaming of it, People have enjoyed a most pleasing kind of Delirium: In short, it is the loveliest and sweetest Region of the World, and is thus painted by the Poet.

Quas neq; concutiunt Venti, neq; Nubilæ Nimbis
Aspergunt, neq; Nix acri concreta Pruinâ
Cana cadens violat, semperq; innubilus Æther
*Contigit & latè diffuso Lumine ridet.**

However, I must own, the Poet seems to have been a little too bold and hyperbolical in this Description; and fond as I am of the Country, I am not so partial as to think this poetic Flight strictly justifiable, notwithstanding all the learned Commentators have wrote to reconcile it to Truth:

Crescit in immensum facunda Licentia Vatum.†

The Country lying very low (as Mr. *Gordon* says of *Holland*) *its Soil is naturally very wet and fenny*, the Parts that are best inhabited are generally the moistest; and Naturalists tell us, this Moisture contributes much to its Fruitfulness; where it is dry, it seldom proves fruitful, nor agreeable to the Tiller: The Parts which have never been broke up, nor had Spade or

* Which, Winds not ruffle, nor the humid Train
Of gathering Clouds e'er deluge o'er with Rain;
Nor fleecy Snow, nor Frosts deform the Soil,
Or frustrate, or suspend the Lab'rour's Toil;
Perpetual Spring smiles on the fertile Ground,
And genial Suns diffuse their Influence round.

† Poets claim Licence that will know no Bounds.

Plough

Plough in them, are most esteemed; and so fond are People of having the first Tilling of a fresh Spot, that I have known some Hundreds of Pounds given to obtain that Pleasure.

MERRYLAND is well water'd by a River, which takes its Rise from a large Reservoir or Lake in the Neighbourhood called VSCA, and discharges itself with a most impetuous Current and fearful Cataract towards the *Terra-Firma* near the Entry of the Great Gulph; of this River I shall treat more particularly in another Chapter.

There is a spacious CANAL runs through the midst of this Country, from one End almost to the other; it is so deep that Authors affirm it has no Bottom. I have often sounded it in many Parts, and tho' I don't doubt but it has a Bottom, I must own I never could reach it; perhaps, had my Sounding-line been a *few Fathoms* longer, it might have reached the Bottom.

We are told of *Solomon*'s *Wells* or Cisterns at a Place the *Turks* call *Roselayne*, which, like this Canal, are reputed to be unfathomable; and the current Tradition is, that they are filled from a subterraneous River, which that wise King, by his great Sagacity, knew to run under-ground in that Place. Vide *De Bruyn. Voyag. au Levant.* Whether this might not as properly be called *Solomon*'s *Canal*, I leave to the Reader's Judgment; it is certain, that wise King was no Stranger to this Country,

but ſpent a great deal in Improvements he made in ſeveral Provinces of it.

All the ſuperfluous Moiſture of the Country is drained off through this Canal, and it is likewiſe the Conveyance of all Proviſions to the upper Part of MERRYLAND; all the Seed ſowed in that Country is conveyed this Way to the *Great Storehouſe* at the upper End of it; and in ſhort, there is no Commodity imported into MERRYLAND, but by this Road; ſo that you may eaſily conceive it to be a Place of *great Traffick*. We may ſay of this Canal, as the learned Doctor *Cheyne* ſays of the *alimentary Tube*, " that it is, as it were, a " *Common-Sewer*, which may be ſouled or " cleaned in various Manners, and with great " Facility; it is *wide*, *open*, and *reaſonably* " *ſtrong*.

The Country is generally fertile enough, where duly manured; and ſome Parts are ſo exceeding fruitful as to bear two or three Crops at a time; a *Dutch* Traveller tells us, there was once known to be as many Crops as Days in the Year; but this I look upon as apocryphal. Other Provinces are ſo utterly barren, that tho' a Man ſhould leave no Stone unturned, but labour and toil for ever, no Seed will take Root in them; yet ſo whimſical are many of the Inhabitants, that they would chuſe one of theſe barren Spots, rather than the more fertile ones; and indeed there is ſome Reaſon for it, People having found

by

by Experience ſeveral great Inconveniencies by too fruitful a Crop. 'Tis a lamentable Thing for a Man to have a large Crop, when his Circumſtances can't afford Houſes to keep it in, or Thatch to cover it; to let it periſh would be infamous, and what can a poor Man do? For he can't diſpoſe of it immediately, it muſt be kept ſeveral Years at great Expence to him, before it is fit for the Market, or capable of making the leaſt Return for his Labour and Expence. Theſe are melancholy Circumſtances for the poor Farmers;

Quæque ipſe miſerrima vidi,
Et Quorum pars magna fui. *

This Peculiarity has put ſome People on inventing Means to prevent the Seed taking Root, or to deſtroy it before it comes to Maturity; but ſuch Practices are only uſed by Stealth, and not openly approved of; it is looked on as a bad Practice, and we are told it was formerly puniſhed with Death.

It ſounds odd, but it is no leſs true than ſtrange, that many have been ruined and forced to run away, by the Greatneſs of their Crop; and on the other hand, many are in a manner miſerable and never ſatisfied, becauſe their Spots prove barren. — Strange Contradiction in People's Tempers! that what would

* ———Which I, alas! have ſeen,
And deeply felt.

be

be one Man's Delight, ſhould be another Man's Torment!

We are told by *Kercher* of a Mountain at *Chekian*, whoſe Soil is of that Quality, that it *tames Tygers*, &c. This Mountain, I preſume, muſt be of the ſame Kind of Soil as MERRYLAND, which in ſome Degree has the Power of *taming* the wildeſt Creatures; nay, it will firſt make them in a manner *mad*, and *tame* them afterwards.

I ſhall conclude this Chapter on the Soil of MERRYLAND, by ſaying, " her Vallies are " like *Eden*, her Hills like *Lebanon*, her " Springs as *Piſgah*, and her Rivers as *Jor-* " *dan*; that ſhe is a *Paradiſe* of Pleaſure, " and *Garden* of Delight.

CHAP. IV.

Of the vaſt Extent of MERRYLAND, *its Diviſions and principal Places of Note.*

THE *Arabian* Geographical Lexicographer cited by *Schultens* in his Geographical Commentary at the End of his Edition of *Soltan Salah'addin*'s Life, very juſtly obſerves, that the exact Limits of this vaſt Country are entirely unknown, the greateſt Traveller having never been able to diſcover its utmoſt Bounds; and whoever attempts ſuch

ſuch a Diſcovery, may properly enough be ſaid to grope in the dark.

Beſides thoſe Parts which are well known, and have been deſcribed by Travellers, there are others of which we know but little, tho' ſome Authors have pretended to be very exact and particular in their Deſcriptions of them, for which they have no better Authority than their own Fancy and Invention; and there are other Parts of this Country ſtill unknown to us. It would ſwell this Work too much, and be of little Uſe to the Reader, to take notice of every Particular; I ſhall therefore content myſelf with mentioning ſuch Parts as are of moſt Note, which are theſe:

1*ſt*, At the End of the great Canal toward the *Terra Firma*, are two Forts called LBA, between which every one muſt neceſſarily paſs, that goes up the Country, there being no other Road. The Fortifications are not very ſtrong, tho' they have *Curtains*, *Hornworks*, and *Ramparts*; they have indeed ſometimes defended the Paſs a pretty while, but were ſeldom or never known to hold out long againſt a cloſe and vigorous Attack.

2*d*, Near theſe Forts is the Metropolis, called CLTRS; it is a pleaſant Place, much delighted in by the Queens of MERRYLAND, and is their chief Palace, ot rather *Pleaſure Seat*; it was at firſt but ſmall, but the Pleaſure ſome of the Queens have found in it, has occaſion'd their extending its Bounds conſiderably.

3*d*, A

3*d*, A little farther up the Country are two other Fortresses, called NMPH, seated near the Banks of the great River. These have sometimes made a stout Resistance, against strong Attacks and skilful Engineers, and have endured a great deal of Hardship in the Assault, so that Instances might be given of the most vigorous Assailants being repulsed with great Loss and Confusion. On the other hand, they have often been known to give way upon the first slight Attack, and admit the Assailants without any Opposition.

4*th*, At the upper End of the great Canal, mentioned in the former Chapter, is the great Treasury or Store-house called UTRS, of which *Plautus* gives this Description,

——— *Item esse reor*
Mare ut est; quod das devorat, nunquam abundat,
Des quantum vis.——*

This *Store-house* is of a very particular Structure; in Shape it somewhat resembles one of our common Pint-Bottles, with the Neck downwards. It is so admirably well

* ——————— Semblance meet
Of the wide Ocean, which ingulfs whate'er
Within its Circuits falls; in its Abyss
Absorbing Great, or Little, as it chances:
Gorge it to the Brim, strait it All devours!
And craves for more.

contrived

contrived, that its Dimensions are always adapted to its Contents; for as the Store contain'd in it increases, so the Bounds are extended in Proportion; and when it is quite empty, or but little in it, it contracts or diminishes proportionably, and that without any Art or Assistance.

5th, Another Part of this Country, often mentioned by Authors, is HMN, about which there have been great Controversies and Disputes among the Learned, some denying there ever was such a Place, others positively affirming to have seen it: For my part, after the nicest Inquiry I could make, I never could discover any thing satisfactory about it; and most Travellers now agree, that if it ever did exist, it is utterly defaced by Time or Accident, so that in these latter Ages, no Footstep of it is to be found; agreeable to that Saying of the Poet,

—— *Etiam ipsæ periere Ruinæ.**

6th, Here I must not omit to mention a famous pleasant Mount called MNSVNRS, which overlooks the whole Country; and, lastly, round the Borders of MERRYLAND is a spacious Forest, which (as Mr. *Chamberlayne* says of the Forests in *England*) "*seems to* "*have been preserved for the Pleasure of Va-* "*riety, and Diversion of Hunting.*"

*——— —No Mark of such a Thing now seen.

Theſe are the principal Places obſerved by Travellers; and to give a more compleat Geographical Deſcription of this Country, I intended to have added a Map of it, but recollecting it would conſiderably enhance the Price of the Book, I choſe rather to refer the curious Reader to a Map of MERRYLAND, curiouſly engraven on Copper plate, and publiſhed ſome Years ago by the Learned Mr. *Moriceau*, who was a great Traveller in that Country, and ſurveyed it with tolerable Exactneſs. There the Reader may ſee all the noted Places and Diviſions laid down exactly as they are ſituated; and here I muſt in Juſtice to the Learned Sir *R. M.* acknowledge, that his late contrived *Model* or *Machine* is a very ingenious Invention, which gives a better Idea of MERRYLAND than can poſſibly be done by the beſt Maps, or any written Deſcription.

CHAP. V.

Of the Ancient and Modern Inhabitants, their Manners, Cuſtoms, &c.

MERRYLAND is well known to have been inhabited ſoon after the Fall, and *Adam* was the firſt Adventurer who planted a Colony in this fruitful and delicious Country. After him the *Patriarchs* were induſtrious Tillers of the Soil. *David* and *Solomon* were

were often there, and many modern Kings and Princes have honour'd this Country with their Royal Presence and Protection. King *Charles* II. in particular was in close Alliance with it, and it flourished exceedingly in his Days. Nor has it been slighted by his Royal Successors, some of whom have taken great Delight in it, and their Councils have sometimes been influenced by the Situation of Affairs in MERRYLAND. We have had *Ministers*, who preferred its Welfare to that of their own Country, and Bishops who would not be displeased to have a small *Bishoprick* in MERRYLAND. At present, the Inhabitants of this Country are very numerous, and composed of People of all Degrees, all Religions, and of all Nations.

As to the Manners of the Inhabitants, tho' they are sometimes very low and despicable, being soon dispirited and dejected by violent Exercise; yet, when in good Spirit, they are very strong and vigorous, and when bent upon their Pleasure, are very bold and daring. They are much addicted to Pleasure and Diversion *in private*, notwithstanding they affect great Gravity and Restraint in public.

They are vastly *ticklish*, and so fond of it, that when they can get no-body to please them that way, they will *tickle themselves*. They are naturally given to love Freedom and Liberty, prone to Change and Variety, much given to Dissembling and Flattery, and greatly addicted to Venery; they have little Esteem of

Frugality or Oeconomy, but *ſpend all they can*, and glory who *ſpends moſt*. They pride themſelves much in their ſtiff and ſtately Carriage, and cannot have a greater Compliment paid them, than by comparing them to the *Behemoth*, of whom it is ſaid in *Job*, that *his Strength is in his Loins, and he moveth his Tail like a Cedar.*

Homer gives a beautiful Deſcription of their Boldneſs and Bravery in an Engagement, and with what Intrepidity they make an Attack; which Mr. *Pope* has tranſlated thus ——

He foams, he glares, he bounds againſt them all;
And if he falls, *his* Courage *makes him* fall.

One remarkable Cuſtom of the Natives is, that the Moment they come into the World, they leave the particular Spot they were born in, and never after return to it, but wander about till they are 14 or 15 Years old, at which Age they generally look out for ſome other Spot of MERRYLAND, and take Poſſeſſion of it the firſt Opportunity; but to enter again in that Part they were born in, is looked on as an infamous Crime, and ſeverely puniſhable by Law; yet ſome have been hardy enough to do it.

There are ſome whimſical Ceremonies commonly obſerved by People when they take Poſſeſſion of any Part of this Country, ſuch as proſtrating themſelves on their Faces, and mut-

tering

tering many Ejaculations in praiſe of the Spot they have choſen; then laying their Hand on it by way of *taking Seiſin*; then he ſticks his Plough in it, and falls to labouring the Soil with all his Might, the Labourer being generally on his Knees: Some indeed work ſtanding; but the other way is the moſt common.

Another thing very remarkable is, the Cuſtom obſerved commonly at all Merry-makings among the Men when over a Bottle; inſtead of toaſting their Miſtreſſes, they begin with drinking a Health to MERRYLAND; and it is a known Rule, that this muſt be always drank in a *Bumper*. If any one refuſes, he is looked on as a ſneaking Fellow. To keep them in mind of this Duty, I have ſeen the following Verſes inſcribed on their Cups and Glaſſes under the Word MERRYLAND:

Hic quicunque legis nomen Amabile
Pleno lætoque Cyatho ſalutem libes,
Sic tibi res amatoriæ proſpere cedant,
*Tua ſic coronet vota Cupido.**

* Whoever takes this Glaſs in Hand,
And reads thereon dear MERRYLAND,
Fill it ſparkling to the Top,
Toaſt the Health, and tope it up;
So may all thy Vows be heard,
When at VENUS' Shrine preferr'd;
So may thy Fair One gentle prove,
And CUPID ever crown thy Love.

As

As to the *Genius* of the Inhabitants it may be obſerved, the *Liberal Arts* are here in the greateſt repute; here *Experimental Philoſophy* has been improved to a wonder; *Phyſic* and *Surgery* have flouriſhed exceedingly; and no Country is better ſtock'd with *Divines*. And for *Merchandizing*, the great Wealth ariſing from Trade in ſome Provinces is a plain Proof and Demonſtration that *Traffick* is carried on in MERRYLAND with great Succeſs.

Here I muſt not omit taking notice, that this Country has produced and inſpired great Numbers of excellent *Poets*, and in return, they have in many of their Works expreſſed their great Regard for the Country, and celebrated its Praiſes with the utmoſt Gratitude and Affection. One of them ſays,

Hic ætatis noſtræ primordia novit,
Annos fœlices, lætitiæque dies:
Hic locus ingenuus pueriles imbuit annos
*Artibus, & noſtræ laudis origo fuit.**

* Here my firſt Breath with happy Stars was drawn;
Here my glad Years and all my Joys began:
In gradual Knowledge, here my Mind increaſt;
Here the firſt Sparks of Glory fir'd my Breaſt.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Product and Commodities, such as Fish, Fowls, Beasts, Plants, &c.

THO' this Country is so plentifully watered, by so fine a River and Canal, it is but indifferently stored with *Fish*; yet when a Stranger comes to MERRYLAND he would imagine by the Smell of the Air, that the Country abounded with *Ling* or *Red-Herrings*; as we are told the River *Tyssa* in *Hungary* smells of *Fish*; so strong is this Smell sometimes, that it is very offensive; but here are no such Fish to be seen. *Cod* indeed are often found about the lower end of the great Canal, and *Crabs* in plenty on its Banks. I never heard of any other Fish in MERRYLAND, except *Muscles*, *Gudgeons* in abundance, some *Dabs*, and a few *Maids*; these last are rarely met with, and it is the Difficulty of catching them, I suppose, makes them much valued by Persons of *nice Taste*. I have indeed heard of a *Mackarel* being found here by Mr. *R.* a Surgeon of *Plymouth*; but this was purely accidental, it being only one single *Mackarel*, brought to MERRYLAND by a young Woman merely for the sake of *trying an Experiment*. However, this Scarcity of Fish is the less to be lamented, as in this Country a *Flesh* Diet is most delighted in, and with that they generally are pretty well supplied.

For

For *Fowls*, here are *Cocks*, *Wagtails*, *Buzzards*, *Widgeons* and *Gulls*, besides *Tomtits*, which being small insignificant Creatures are of no Esteem, and *Capons*, which are likewise held in great Disrepute.

Of Beasts, here are plenty of *Asses*, some *Bears*, *Dromedaries* and *Mules*, and many sly old *Foxes*. I have heard likewise of *Baboons*, *Monkeys*, and *Spaniels*; but as it is unnatural to find them here, I believe it is likewise more uncommon than is reported. I know it has been strongly insisted on by several learned Men (some of them great Travellers in MERRYLAND) that *Rabbets* have been bred in that Country, and they expected great Profits from a Warren they pretended to have lately discovered; but, after a great Noise made about it, All came to nothing.

As for the Commodities of the *mineral* and *vegetable* Kind, here are a few of each which I shall take notice of, as far as my Observation and Memory serve me.

Of the *mineral Kind*, the *Blue* or *Roman Vitriol* (which is of great Use to eat away proud Flesh) is often found on the Borders of this Country; and it is observed the Provinces, where this is found, are generally unwholesome.

There have been Instances of *Gold* and *Silver* discovered here, nor is the Country destitute of *precious Stones*, here being a Kind very much esteemed, tho' very common

mon to be met with on the Surface; so fond are they of them, that a Man would be look'd on with Contempt in MERRYLAND, if he had not at least two of them, which they always carry about them in a Purse; they contribute very much to the Fruitfulness of the Soil.

Of the vegetable Kind, here is *Rue* in great Plenty; *Carrots* are no Strangers to this Soil, but are much used; here is some *True-love* and *Sweet-Marjoram*, and the Plant call'd *Maiden-hair*; but the last is very scarce. Here is no Scarcity of several Kinds of *Simples*, of which they make great Profit.

There is a Plant of the submarine Kind, which delights much in this Soil; the End of it resembles the *red Coral*, and partakes much of its Virtue; it is highly esteemed in MERRYLAND, and is undoubtedly a great Sweetener; it being frequently applied very successfully to cure *sharp* and *sour Humours*. This Plant yields a *whitish viscid Juice*, which, when taken inwardly, has a bad Effect on some People, causing a large Tumour in the Umbilical Regions, which is not got rid of again without great Pain. But there are many on whom it never has that Effect, let them take ever so great a Quantity of it. It is generally reckoned an excellent Cosmetic, "giving a most inexpressible resplendent "Brightness to the whole Countenance, and "causes sparkling Life, Spirit, and juvenile

" Bloom to reign in every Feature." It may properly enough be called the *Coral-plant*, as it resembles it in several Particulars. Mr. *Boyle* affirms of the Nature and Generation of *Coral*, that whilst it grows, it is often soft and succulent, and propagates its Species: And *Kircher* was informed by the Divers, that the Coral would sometimes let fall a spermatic Juice, which lighting on a proper Body produced another *Coral*. The same may be said of the Plant above mentioned.

Another submarine Plant is said to be found in MERRYLAND, of the *Sponge-kind*, the Name of which I have forgot. They use it not only as a *Cleanser*, but also as an Antidote against the bad Effects of the Juice above mentioned.

Here are *Flowers* in great Plenty, but not much to be commended, either for Fragrancy or Beauty. They are not variegated, nor is there any great Diversity of Colours; *Red* and *White* are most common. Some Naturalists have imagined these Flowers to be of a poisonous Quality; but that Notion is now sufficiently exploded, and it is observed, if they happen not to spring in their due Season, the Country generally proves unhealthy and barren.

As for *Manufactures*, I never heard of any in MERRYLAND worth mentioning, except those for *Pins* and *Needles*, which are made in great Plenty in some of the most trading

Provinces,

Provinces, and are famous for their *exquisite Sharpness.*

CHAP. VII.

Of the Rarities, Curiosities, *&c.*

THE great RIVER mentioned in the 3d Chapter is very remarkable; the Water is *warm* and *brackish*, and does not run in a constant Stream like other Rivers, but the Current stops every Day for Hours together; and without observing any regular Period, it all on a sudden falls a running again with great Rapidity. This River (like the River NESS in *Scotland*, and the Lake of DRONTHEIM in *Norway)* never freezes in the hardest Frosts, but always retains its natural Heat; and has another remarkable Quality, like that of the River *Adonis* near *Byblus* in *Phœnicia*, which at certain Seasons *appears bloody*, as we are told in *Maundrel's* Journey from *Aleppo* to *Jerusalem.*

The CANAL, before taken notice of in the 3d Chapter, deserves to be ranked among the Curiosities of this Country, not only for its *wonderful Depth*, which is said to be *unfathomable*; but for another extraordinary Quality, no less surprising; for as it is reported of some Lakes in *China*, that the throwing any thing into them causes a Storm, so on the

 contrary

contrary many violent Storms have been appeased, if not entirely laid, by throwing into this Canal a handsome Sprig of the *Coral-plant* mentioned in the 6th Chapter. This famous Canal answers the Description given in the *Atlas*, of a Lake near LE BESSE in *Brittany*, which is so deep, it never could be sounded; and in a hollow Place near it, a Noise is heard like Thunder.

Among the Rarities may likewise justly be reckoned that wonderful Mountain on the Confines of MERRYLAND, which at some Seasons begins to extend its Dimensions both in Height and Bigness, and increases its Bulk so considerably, that it is esteem'd one of the most admirable Works of Nature; after it has continued swelling thus gradually for some Months, it will fall again all at once, and be reduced to its former Compass. This Swelling is generally the Fore-runner of a *dear Year*; and therefore some of the poorer Sort, who are not bound to their Farms by Lease, take the Alarm at this ominous Swelling, and fly the Country, as soon as they perceive it.

There are two other pleasant little Mountains called BBY, which tho' at some Distance from MERRYLAND, have great Affinity with that Country, and are properly reckoned as an Appendage to it. These little Mountains are exactly alike, and not far from each other, having a pleasant Valley between them; on the Top of each is a fine *Fountain*, that yields

a very

a very wholesome Liquor much esteemed, especially by the younger sort of People. These Fountains are often quite dry; but it is observed, they seldom fail to run plentifully after the Swelling of the other Mountain beforementioned, and they have in some Degree the same Faculty of rising and falling; so that it is not without good Reason, Philosophers have imagined there is a secret Communication between these Places.

But of all the Curiosities, nothing deserves our Notice so much as a small Animal, somewhat of the serpentine Kind, known by the Name of PNTL; it is often found plunging about in the great Canal, which is the Place it mostly delights in; so wonderful is this Creature, that it well deserves a particular Description in this Place, and tho' it be but small, I may say of it, as is said of the *Leviathan*, "I will not conceal his Parts, nor his "Power, nor his comely Proportion; he "maketh the Deep to boil like a Pot; he is "King over all the Children of Pride." This Animal has neither Legs or Feet, but, by the vast Strength of its Muscles, has a Power of erecting itself, so as to stand almost upright. That learned Physician and Philosopher Dr. *Cheyne* seems to have had this in his View, when he said, "The *animal* Body is "nothing but a *Compages* or Contexture of "Pipes; an *hydraulick Machine*, filled with "a Liquor of such a Nature as was transf-

"fused

" fused into it by its *Parents*, or is changed " into by the Nature of the *Food* it is nou- " rished with, and is ever afterwards *good*, " *bad*, or *indifferent*, as these two Sources " have sent it forth." They are only of the Male-kind, and yet propagate their Species very plentifully. This may seem very strange, at first sight, to those *who have not thrown off the material* INCRUSTATION, *that entangles and fetters the full Exercise and Penetration of their natural Powers, which are tied down, sopited, and fettered, by the Manner of our* ORIGINATION; but any one, who will consult the learned Author before-mentioned, will find he very logically proves, that in all Animals "originally, there must have been " no *Difference of Sexes*, BECAUSE at last " in their restored State there will be none. " And that it is highly probable, the *Female* " was but a *secundary* Intention, or a *Buttress* " to a falling Edifice.

They are of different Sizes, from six to seven or eight Inches in Height, when full grown, and from four to six in Circumference; there are some indeed of much larger Dimensions, but very rarely to be met with; and there are others much less, but they are of little or no Value; those of a middling Size are observed to be more lively and vigorous than the larger Sort, who like the Grenadiers in a Regiment, are not able to make so long and frequent Marches as the Battallion Men, the

the latter being for the moſt part better ſet and nimbler, as being furniſhed with a greater plenty of Spirits. One thing is very remarkable of theſe Animals, that either ſleeping or waking, when they lie down, they immediately contract themſelves to one third of their Length and Bigneſs, and grow ſo flagged and limber, one would ſcarce think they had ever been enabled to ſtand; but when they are rouſed up and in full Vigour, they are very ſtately, and much admired for their portly Mien. Here I muſt beg leave to refer once more to the above quoted Author, who tells us, "This *ſpiritual animal* Body, at firſt "divinely organized, may be *rolled up, folded* "*together*, and *contracted* in this State of its "Duration, into an infinitely ſmall *Punctum* "*Saliens*, into a *Miniature of Miniature in* "*infinitum*, and proceeding in a *diverging* "*Series*, and progreſſive Gradation, that in "due time it may be fit to be *nouriſhed* and "*increaſed* by the Juices of the proper *Fe*-"*male*." In purſuit of their Prey, no Creature can be more keen, and they ruſh on it with great Eagerneſs. Their Skin is of a ſwarthy Complexion, and hangs ſo looſe about their Shoulders, that it frequently ſerves as a Hood to draw up quite over its Head and Face, or rather the Head ſhrinks into the Skin as a Snail pulls in his Horns and Head into his Shell. The Face of this Creature is of a reddiſh Complexion, and moſt delicately ſoft

to

to the Touch; they are flat nosed, and have no Eyes, but find their Way by Instinct; They have no Bones, but are all Muscles and Flesh, which properly prepared and taken inwardly, is very refreshing and nourishing. It is reckoned a Specifick for the Green-sickness, and many other feminine Disorders; " and is a Medicine so wonderfully pleasant, " and easy in its Operation, that the nicest " Palate or weakest Constitution may take " it with Delight, and so innocent, that it is " administered to Women with Child with " great Safety.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the Government *of* MERRYLAND.

THE Government of this Country is *Monarchial*, and absolute in the highest Degree. As the *French* have their *Salique-Law*, by which all Females are excluded from the Throne, so on the contrary, MERRYLAND may be said to be entirely under *Female Government*, there being an absolute Queen over each particular Province, whose Power is unlimited; no Tyrants having ever required a more servile and blind Submission than the Queens of MERRYLAND. *Herodianus*, Lib. 4. Cap. 3. says, " They treated their Sub- " jects as the meanest of Slaves, and scarce " as Men, while they put themselves on a

" Level

" Level with the immortal Gods." There are numberleſs Inſtances of the vaſt Power of theſe Queens, the Conqueſts they have made, and the many cunning and crafty Methods thy have uſed to obtain their Ends; but as I do not pretend to write their Hiſtory, I muſt not here enlarge on that Subject. Few of theſe Queens but have ſome Favourite or prime Miniſter, and when they are well ſatisfied with his Abilities and Behaviour, they will ſuffer themſelves to be governed in a great meaſure by his Advice; but alas! there are ſome, who, tho' they have abundance of able Miniſters, will never be ruled by any of them, are always varying and changing, turning out their greateſt Favourites, for no other Reaſon in the World, but to ſhew their Power, and gratify their inconſtant Tempers; admitting a new Favourite every Day, as if *Variety* was their greateſt Delight. Such are the Caprices of theſe Queens, and ſo uncertain the Proſperity of their *ableſt* Miniſters. Beſides their Capriciouſneſs, many of them are alſo juſtly accuſed for their greedy and inſatiable Tempers, forcing their Subjects to labour, drudge and toil without ceaſing, to ſatisfy their voracious Appetites. Some few able-bodied Men have indeed made ſhift to do their Work, and theſe, it muſt be owned, meet with good Encouragement; tho' they are kept to hard Labour, they get a comfortable Subſiſtance as their Reward. I have

known ſome of them well-cloathed and fed, and in a very thriving Way; but it is not every one is qualified by Nature to go through ſo much Fatigue.

Some of theſe Queens have deſerved the worſt of Characters, and are recorded for their Infamy in the Works of the *Greek* and *Roman* Satyriſts. But our BRITISH JUVENAL, in an excellent *Latin* Satyr, lately publiſhed, has given us ſo lively a Picture of one of them, that I cannot forbear tranſcribing four Lines, which excell all I have ever met with, either in the Ancients or Moderns.

Saga petit Juvenes, petit innuptaſque Puellas;
Vel Taurum peteret, Veneris quoque mille Figuras,
Mille modos meditans, Ætas in Crimina Vires,
*Datque Animos: creſcunt anni, creſcitque Libido.** SCAMNUM.

As to the MILITARY GOVERNMENT in this Country, I cannot pretend to ſay much, as I am not acquainted with their ſeveral

* The Witch ſeduces Youth and Virgins pure,
And would a Bull, could ſhe the Weight endure;
She tries all Poſtures Luſt has e'er contriv'd,
And of her own adds many more beſide;
Her Crimes, by Age, have Strength and Courage found,
And as her Years increaſe, her Luſt abounds.

Rules

Rules; but I have obſerved in general, that Soldiers are well eſteemed and encouraged, and there are no Complaints againſt *Red Coats* in MERRYLAND, however they may be diſapproved of in other Countries. Their *Naval* Forces are likewiſe very conſiderable, and of great Service to the Country, being a Set of luſty Fellows, always willing to work when aſhore, and never backward in *ſpending their all*, for the Service of the particular Queen under whoſe Juriſdiction they live.

It would no doubt be very acceptable to the Reader, if after the *Civil* and *Military*, I could give him any particular Account of the *Eccleſiaſtical Government* of this Country; and it is with the greateſt Concern that I am not able to gratify his Curioſity; for the Clergy endeavour to keep it a Secret as much as poſſible among themſelves, being a *Myſtery* they think improper to be divulged among the Laity; and tho' I could mention ſome Particulars on this Subject, which have accidentally come to my Knowledge, I muſt deſire to be excuſed, being very unwilling to give Offence to a Body of Men, for whom I have the greateſt Veneration, and to ſome of whom I have been particularly obliged for their kind Aſſiſtance and Recommendation, which contributed much to the Pleaſure I have enjoyed in MERRYLAND. I ſhall therefore ſay no more of the Eccleſiaſtical Go-

vernment, but only obſerve in general (and I hope without Offence) that there are many *Biſhopricks* in this Country, the exact Number I cannot pretend to gueſs at, nor how far their ſeveral Juriſdictions reach. — Of the *inferior Clergy* here are ſuch abundance, that they may, on a modeſt Computation, be reckoned to enjoy more than the *Tythe* of all MERRYLAND.

CHAP. IX.

Of the Religion *in* MERRYLAND.

CHriſtianity was firſt planted here, in all probability, in the earlieſt Ages of the Church; at preſent no Country can boaſt of more Religions, and yet no Part of Chriſtendom may be truely ſaid to be leſs religious than this. Here we may ſee all Sects and Parties (all Religions being embraced) and yet that which the Apoſtle calls *the pure and undefiled Religion before God and the Father*, is as little, if not leſs thought on here, than in any Chriſtian Country whatſoever.

IMAGE WORSHIP (to the Shame of the Country be it ſpoken) is a Vice they are not entirely free of: for it is well known, too many of the Queens of MERRYLAND have a particular Veneration for a certain *Image*, made in Reſemblance of the *Coral-plant* mentioned in the

the 6th Chapter; to this they often pay their Devotions, with the greateſt Privacy; the Ceremony conſiſts of various Emotions and Agitations of the Body, and Manual Performances, which my Abhorrence of the *idolatrous Cuſtom* forbids me to deſcribe more particularly: 'Tis much better my Readers ſhould be kept in Ignorance of ſuch ſhameful Actions, which all Men muſt deteſt, than by any farther Deſcription be informed how to practiſe them.

Here are Popiſh Miſſionaries in great Plenty, and by that means the *Roman* Catholick Religion is pretty much propagated, they being very laborious and indefatigable; *Quakers*, *Preſbyterians*, *Independants*, and of late the *Methodiſts*, have been great Labourers in theſe Parts, tho' not ſo profeſſedly and openly perhaps as ſome others.—It is to be lamented that ſo many Sects are tolerated, eſpecially conſidering the dangerous Heats and Flames that are kindled in the Country by the intemperate Zeal of ſo many different Sects.—In ſhort, there is no Sect whatever, but has found Footing in MERRYLAND; and it is hard to ſay, which of them all is the moſt eſtabliſhed. One Thing is pretty remarkable, in which they all agree with that excellent *Litany* of our Church, all of them joining in that Prayer, *to ſtrengthen ſuch as do ſtand, to comfort and help the weak, and raiſe up thoſe that fall.*

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

Of the Language.

THE ſame may be ſaid of the Language uſed in MERRYLAND, as Mr. *Gordon* ſays of the *Japaneſe Tongue*; "It is very "polite and copious, abounding with many "ſynonymous Words, which are commonly "uſed according to the Nature of the Sub-"ject, as alſo the Quality, Age, and Sex, "both of the Speaker, and the Perſon to "whom the Diſcourſe is directed." There is ſomewhat very ſweet and emphatick in the Language, and at the ſame time it may be ſaid, they have the leaſt need of it of any People, for they have the Art of communicating their Sentiments very plainly by their *Eyes and Actions*, ſo that mute Perſons can (if I may be allowed the Expreſſion) ſpeak intelligibly by their Eyes; and this Kind is often uſed with better Succeſs than the fineſt Speeches.

To confirm this I beg leave to refer the curious Reader to the following Quotation from a learned Author, who ſays, "Mirantur "OCULI, adamant, concupiſcunt, Amoris, "Iræ, Furoris, Miſericordiæ, Ultionis Indices "ſunt; in Audacia proſiliunt, in Reverentia "ſubſident, in Amore blandiuntur, in Dio "efferantur, gaudente animo hilares ſubſident,

"in

" in Cogitatione ac Cura quiescunt, quasi
" cum Mente simul intenti, &c.*

LAUR. *Lib. de Sens. Org.* 11. *Cap.* 3.

They have likewise some *particular Motions* of the *Tongue*, which very emphatically express their Meaning, without uttering any articulate Sound, and is frequently more successful than the finest Flowers of Elocution.

It is much to be lamented, that no-body has given us a *Grammar* of the MERRYLAND Language; it would be very useful to the World, and I do not despair of prevailing on the Modesty of a *learned Orator* to undertake it, who has already obliged the World with *half a Score* other Grammars, and is universally allowed to be as well qualified for compiling *this*, as he was for *those*.

CHAP. XI.

Of the several Tenures, *&c.*

THERE are perhaps as many Kinds or Tenures in MERRYLAND as in any Country whatever, and it would be as difficult as it is needless to enumerate them all: —Some

* The EYES may properly be term'd the Index of the Soul, inasmuch as they discover her various Passions of Admiration, Fondness, Desire, Love, Anger, Fury, Pity, and Revenge; when daring, they dart forth; when obsequious,

—Some holding by *Tail-ſpecial*, ſome by *Tail-general*, ſome by *Knights-ſervice*, ſome in *Fee-ſimple*, others only *during Pleaſure*, and others by *Leaſe for Life*. This laſt is pretty common, and tho' not perhaps the *beſt* Tenure, is the *moſt encouraged by Law*, and therefore ſhall firſt be treated of. The Circumſtances attending it are very ſingular, and worth Obſervation.

When a Man reſolves to take a Spot in MERRYLAND by this Tenure, he makes the beſt Agreement he can with the Proprietor of the Farm, and the Terms being concluded on, publick Notice is given, that he deſigns ſpeedily to enter into Poſſeſſion, that any Perſon, who has juſt Objection to it, may forbid it before it is too late. You muſt know, there are ſeveral lawful Objections, ſuch as the Farm being engaged before to another, or the Man having already another Farm on his Hands (for none are allowed to hold two at a time by this Tenure) his being any ways pre-ingaged, or having any Incapacity to manure his Farm, *&c.* If no Objection be made, (to avoid which, they ſometimes purchaſe a Licenſe, which diſpenſes with the Ceremony of giving publick Notice) then the Leaſe for Life is executed in this manner: The Officer,

obſequious, they ſubmiſſively recline; when enamour'd, they ſooth; when at Liberty, they roam; plainly demonſtrating when the Mind is exhilarated, and when overwhelmed with Anxiety and Care, *&c.*

whoſe

whoſe Buſineſs it is (and of which there is one in each Pariſh) reads a ſhort Panegyrick on Farming, ſetting forth its original Inſtitution and Uſe, the great *Importance* and *Honour* of that State, with proper Precautions not to take it in hand unadviſedly, lightly or wantonly, and requires the Man (as he ſhall anſwer at the dreadful Day of Judgment) to confeſs freely, if he knows any lawful Impediment, why he ſhould not proceed in taking his Leaſe.—Then the Man makes a ſolemn Promiſe, that he will take the Farm according to Law, that he will keep it whether it prove good or bad, and forſaking all others keep only unto that for Life; the Officer then gives his Bleſſing to the Undertaking, prays for the Succeſs, and then ſings a Song, ſetting forth the Happineſs of Farming, and great Promiſes of Fruitfulneſs. The Ceremony being ended, the Man takes Poſſeſſion of his Lot, and commonly begins to till it before he ſleeps; and whatever Seaſon of the Year it be, he generally continnes tilling and labouring hard for the firſt few Days, till he is tired, and forced to take ſome Reſpite.

Theſe long Leaſes have been the Ruin of many a ſubſtantial Farmer, for People are too apt to engage in a hurry, without due Conſideration of the Conſequence, or competent Knowledge of the Goodneſs of the Farm, which frequently proves to be a ſtubborn Soil, and makes the poor Farmer ſoon repent his Bargain;

but there is no Remedy, the Man is bound, and muſt drudge on for Life.—This Inconvenience has deterred many from ever taking Leaſes; and others, who have raſhly been bound to a hard Bargain, when they find there is no Remedy, have been ſo diſcouraged, that they become ill Husbands, growing quite indolent and negligent of their Farm; and tho' they cannot throw up their Leaſes, they will let their Farms lie fallow, and clandeſtinely take another that is more agreeable to them.

There are many People who never will venture to take a Farm by the Tenure before-mentioned, but chuſe rather to hold as *Tenants at Will* or *during Pleaſure*, and tho' they pay a *dear Rate*, they have this Advantage, that whenever they do not like their Farm, they can immediately quit it and take another; there is little Danger of one of theſe Farms lying long unoccupied, for if one Man leave it To-day, another takes it To-morrow.

Thoſe who hold by *Knights-Service* in the Courteſy of MERRYLAND, thrive generally very well, and reap good Profit by their Labour, eſpecially if they be able pains-taking Men; let the Soil be ever ſo long worn, and out of heart, yet they will make ſomething of it.

There is a great deal of Ground in MERRYLAND, which lies *Common*, and this is ſo bad, that let a Man ſow ever ſo much Seed in it, it ſeldom produces any thing better than Bri-

ars

ars and Thorns.——This Ground is not worth inclosing, tho' some People have been Fools enough to attempt it.

There is one Inconvenience attends most of the Farms in MERRYLAND, for it is a difficult Matter to fence or inclose them so securely, but the Neighbours, who are very apt to watch all Opportunities, may easily break into them; and it is surprising, where there is so much *Common*, and a great deal of good Pasture to be got at easy Rates, that People should be so fond of breaking into their Neighbours Inclosures, where if they are catched, and prosecuted, they run a Risque of paying very severely, the Law being very strict in these Cases; and Juries are so apt to give the Plaintiff immoderate great Damages, that I have known a Man cast in several *thousand Pounds* Damages, for a small Trespass on a Farm, which was little better than *Common*, and which the Owner would gladly have sold the *Fee simple* of for a *hundreth Part* of the Money.

CHAP. XII.

Of the Harbours, Bays, Creeks, Sands, Rocks, *and other dangerous* Places; *with the* Settings *and* Flowings *of the* Tides *and* Currents; *also* Directions *for* Strangers *steering safe into* MERRYLAND.

TO recite all the *Bays*, *Creeks*, &c. would be an endless Piece of Work; and it is as impossible to point out all the *Rocks*, which People have split on, when bound for MERRYLAND: But I shall here give the Reader the best Directions I can to pilot him safe to this charming Country, by describing the Two Courses that are most commonly steered, and leave it to every one to chuse which suits best with his Inclination or Convenience.

They who go by the *upper Course*, make first for that Part of the Continent called LPS, where they generally *bring to*, and salute the Fort; and sometimes it is required that they *pay the Customs* and *Duties* here, before they are allowed to proceed further; but this is not always demanded. Then if you find the Wind favourable, steer along Shore to the *Bby-Mountains*, where there is *good Riding*; and

and if you meet with no Storm, but find it calm and quiet, you may thence ſafely venture to run on with the Tide, and puſh in boldly for the Harbour: But if you find rough and tempſtuous Weather, as ſometimes happens at touching at *Bby*, and the Tide ſtrong againſt you, it is beſt to *lie-by*, till the Storm is appeaſed, and a fairer Proſpect offers of a proſperous Voyage; nor ſhould you be diſcouraged by every little *Squall* which you may meet with at this Place, for generally theſe Squalls, tho' they ſeem violent at firſt, ſoon blow over without much Damage.

Some People prefer the *lower Courſe*, which is, at once to run in boldly up *the Straits of Tibia*, with the *Coxadext* bearing cloſe on the Larboard-Bow, and ſo run a-head, directly as the Current carries you, into the Harbour; and indeed when the *Trade-winds* ſet in, this Courſe cannot fail.

In either of theſe Courſes, it is beſt to be provided with a good *Foreſtaff*, kept in ſuch Order, as to be always ready for Uſe at a Moment's Warning. I have known ſome People, for want of this Inſtrument being in Readineſs, make a very unſucceſsful Voyage, and been put back again, to their great Diſappointment, when they were juſt at the Entry of the Harbour. It is alſo proper to make frequent *Obſervations* and *Soundings*; but, as Mr. *Collin* ſays in his *Coaſting Pilot*, " the

" the Thing principally to be obſerved, is " the *Setting of the Tide*, which often alters " the Courſe, to the Diſappointment of the " Mariner; for when you ſail cloſe upon a " Wind, if the Tide takes you on the Wea- " ther-bough, you will fall too much to Lee- " ward of your Expectation, and if on the " Lee-bough, it carries you too much to " Windward." The ſame Author very juſtly obſerves, " There is generally ſo great an " *Indraught* of the Tide, that in little Wind, " or a Calm, you will *be drawn in*, to Ad- " miration."

Tho' the Tide is generally very favourable, and ſets into the Harbour, it is to be noted, that at the Time of *Spring-Tides*, which only flow for four or five Days, once in a Month, the Current then runs *ſtrong out*, and it is beſt to *lie-by* till the Spring is over, tho' ſome People make no Scruple of going in when the Spring-Tides are at the Height.

There are People who, inſtead of ſteering either of theſe Courſes, incline ſometimes to go about by the *Windward-Paſſage*, but this I do not ſo well approve; in ſome Circumſtances indeed it may be convenient, but I believe it is commonly done more for ſake of Variety than Conveniency.

Different Pilots have given us Variety of Directions, and ſhewed many Ways of ſteering ſafely to MERRYLAND; among others, that ingenious Pilot M. *Aratine* has publiſhed

ſeveral

ſeveral *Charts*, with the different Bearings, *&c.* to which I refer the curious Reader, rather than ſwell this Chapter any more; and indeed I do not ſee any great Neceſſity for many Directions, the Voyage not being ſo difficult, but what a blind Man may almoſt find his Way thither, by one Courſe or another; or ſhould any one be at a loſs, when he comes to the Coaſt of MERRYLAND, it's ten to one but he will find a Pilot to help him into Harbour, they being ready enough to oblige Strangers in that Way, as I myſelf found in my firſt Voyage, when I was very young and not expert in theſe Matters. It is remarkable, that when our Mariners come near the Coaſt in other Parts of the World, they wiſh for light Nights, that they may ſee the Shore, *&c.* but in the Voyages to MERRYLAND, they meet with no Inconvenience from the Dark, but find it generally favours them, and helps into Harbour with leſs Trouble than broad Day-light.

After you are fairly entered the Mouth of the Harbour, go up as far as you can, and come to an Anchor, *veering* out as much Cable as poſſible; the more you *veer*, the better you will ride. The chief Thing is, to beware of anchoring in *foul Ground*; for here is ſome much *gruffer* than others, and a great deal ſo very bad, that it will ſoon ſpoil the beſt of Cables; the *ſandy* or *grey Ground* are not good to anchor in, the *brown* is beſt, in my

my Opinion: But as People cannot always have their Choice, they muſt be contented with ſuch as they can get.

Now, having brought my Reader to Anchor in this pleaſant Harbour, I conclude with wiſhing him all the Delight MERRYLAND can afford: I have endeavoured to conduct him ſafe, and give him a full View of this delicious Country, without the Danger of *Waves*, *Tempeſts* or *Shipwreck*; and if he reaps either Pleaſure or Profit from my Labour, I ſhall think the Pains I have taken to compile this ſhort Treatiſe, very well rewarded.

FINIS.

ARBOR VITÆ, or *the Tree of Life*, is a ſucculent Plant; conſiſting of one ſtraight Stem, on the Top of which is a *Piſtillum*, or *Apex*, at ſometimes *Glandiform* and reſembling a *May-Cherry*, tho' at others, more like the *Nut* of the *Avellana* or *Filbert-Tree*.

Its *Fruits*, contrary to moſt others, grow near the Root; they are uſually no more than two in Number, their Bigneſs ſomewhat exceeding that of an ordinary *Nutmeg*, both contained in one ſtrong *Siliqua*, or Purſe; which, together with the whole Root of the Plant, is commonly thick ſet with numerous *Fibrillæ*, or *Capillary-Tendrils*.

The *Tree* is of ſlow Growth, and requires Time to bring it to Perfection, rarely ſeeding to any Purpoſe before the Fifteenth Year; when the Fruits coming to good Maturity, yield a viſcous Juice or balmy *Succus*, which being from Time to Time diſcharged at the *Piſtillum*, is moſtly beſtowed upon the open *Calyxes* of the *Frutex Vulvaria*, or *Flowering Shrub*, uſually ſpreading under the Shade of this Tree, and whoſe Parts are, by a wonderful Mechaniſm, adapted to receive it. The late ingenious Mr. *Richard Bradley*, Profeſſor of Botany at the Univerſity of *Cambridge*, was of Opinion, the *Frutex* is hereby impregnated, and then firſt begins to bear; he therefore accounts this *Succus* the *Farina Fæcundans* of the Plant. And the learned *Leonard Fuchſius*,

in his *Historia Stirpium Insigniorum*, obſerves the greateſt Sympathy between this Tree and Shrub: *They are*, ſays he, *of the ſame Genus, and do beſt in the ſame Bed; the* Vulvaria *itſelf being indeed no other than a Female* Arbor Vitæ.

It is produced in moſt Countries, tho' it thrives more in ſome than others, where it alſo increaſes to a larger Size. The Height here in *England* rarely paſſes nine, or eleven Inches, and that chiefly in *Kent*; whereas in *Ireland* it comes to far greater Dimenſions; is ſo good, that many of the Natives intirely ſubſiſt upon it, and, when tranſplanted, have been ſometimes known to raiſe good Houſes with ſingle Plants of this Sort.

As the *Iriſh-Soil* is accounted the beſt, ſo there is ſome as remarkably bad for its Cultivation; and the leaſt and worſt in the World are ſaid to be about *Harborough* and the Foreſt of *Sherwood*.

The *Stem* ſeems to be of the *ſenſitive* Tribe, tho' herein differing from the more common *Senſitives*; that whereas they are known to ſhrink and retire from even the gentleſt Touch of a Lady's Hand, this riſes on the contrary, and extends itſelf, when it is ſo handled.

In Winter it is not eaſy to raiſe theſe Trees without a hot Bed; but in warmer Weather they ſtand well in the open Air.

In the latter Seaſon they are ſubject to become weak and flaccid, and want Support; for

for which Purpoſe ſome Gardeners have thought of ſplintering them up with *Birchen Twigs*, which has ſeemed of ſome Service for the preſent, tho' the Plants have very ſoon come to the ſame, or a more drooping State than before.

The late ingenious Mr. *Motteux* thought of reſtoring a fine Plant he had in this Condition, by tying it up with a *Tomex*, or Cord made of the Bark of the *Vitex*, or *Hempen Tree*: But whether he made the Ligature too ſtrait, or that the Nature of the *Vitex* is really in itſelf pernicious, he quite killed *his Plant* thereby; which makes this univerſally condemned, as a dangerous Experiment.

Some *Virtuoſi* have thought of improving their Trees for ſome Purpoſes, by taking off the *Nutmegs*, which is however a bad Way; they never *ſeed* after, and are good for little more than making Whiſtles of, which are imported every Year from *Italy*, and ſell indeed at a great Price.

Some other curious Gentlemen have endeavour'd to inoculate their Plants on the Stock of the *Medlar*, and that with a Manure of *Human Ordure*, but this has never been approved: And I have known ſome Trees brought to a *very ill End* by ſuch Management.

The *Natural-Soil* is certainly beſt for their Propagation, and that is in hollow Places, which are warm and near ſalt Water, beſt known by their producing the ſame Sort of *Tendrils*

as are obſerved about the Roots of the *Arbor* itſelf. Some Cautions however are very neceſſary, eſpecially to young Botaniſts; and firſt, to be very diligent in keeping their Trees clean and neat; a pernicious Sort of Inſect, not unlike a *Morpoine*, or *Cimex*, being very ſubject to breed amongſt the *Fibrillæ*, which, if not taken away, and timely deſtroyed, proves often of very dangerous Conſequence.

Another Caution, no leſs uſeful, we have from that excellent and judicious Botaniſt Mr. *Philip Miller*, to beware of a poiſonous Species of *Vulvaria*, too often miſtaken for the wholeſome one, and which, if ſuffered too near our Trees, will very greatly endanger their well-being. He tells us, in his moſt elaborate and uſeful *Dictionary*, now compleated in two Volumes *Folio*, that before he had acquired his Judgment and Experience, ſome of his Plants have often been Sufferers thro' this Miſtake; and he has ſeen a tall thriving Tree, by the Contact only of this venomous Shrub, become *porroſe ſcabioſe*, and covered with *fungous Excreſcences* not unlike the Fruits of the *Ficus Sylveſtris*; in which Caſe the *Succus* alſo has loſt both its Colour and Virtue; and the Tree itſelf has ſo much partaken of the Nature of the venomous Shrub which had hurt it, that itſelf has become venomous, and ſpread the Poiſon through a whole Plantation.

Theſe *Diſtempers* of a *Tree* of the greateſt Uſe and Value, have employed the Labours

of

of the moſt eminent Botaniſts and Gardeners, to ſeek out Remedies for them: In which, however, none have ſucceeded like the late celebrated Dr. *Miſaubin*, who from his profound Knowledge in Botany, has compoſed a moſt elaborate Work upon *all Things that can happen*, both to the *Arbor Vitæ* and *Vulvaria* alſo: Therein, he has taught a certain Cure for all theſe Evils; and, what is moſt wonderful, has even found out a Way of making the moſt venomous *Vulvaria* itſelf wholeſome, which his Widow practiſes daily, to the Satisfaction of all who now apply to her.

Theſe venomous *Vulvaria* are but too common in moſt Gardens about *London*. There are many in St. *James's Park*, and more in the celebrated Gardens at *Vaux-Hall*, over the Water.

Beſides the common Name of *Arbor Vitæ*, a very learned Philoſopher, and great Divine § would have it called *Arbor Scientiæ boni & mali*;* believing upon very good Grounds, this is the *Tree* which grew in the Middle of the Garden of *Eden*, and whoſe Fruits were ſo alluring to our firſt Mother. Others would have it called the *Mandrake* of *Leah*, perſuaded it is the ſame whoſe Juice made the before-barren *Rachel* a joyful Mother of Children.

The learned Madam *Dacier*, in her Notes upon *Homer*, contends it ſhould be called

§ Mr. Ray.

* The *Tree* of the *Knowledge* of *Good* and *Evil*.

Nepenthes,

Nepenthes. She gives many Reasons why it certainly is that very Plant, whose Fruits the *Egyptian* Queen recommended to *Helen*, as a certain Cure for Pain and Grief of all Sorts, and which she ever after kept by her as her most precious Jewel, and made use of as a *Panacea* upon all Occasions.

The great Dr. *Bentley* calls it, more than once, *Machæra Herculis*, having proved, out of the Fragments of a *Greek* Poet, that of this Tree was made the Club with which that Hero is said to have overcome the *fifty* wild Daughters of *Thespius*, but with Queen *Omphale* afterwards reduced to a Distaff. Others have thought the celebrated *Hesperian* Trees were of this Sort; and the very Name of *Poma Veneris*, the Venereal-Apples, frequently given by Authors to the Fruits of this Tree, is a sufficient Proof these were really the *Apples* for which three Goddesses contended in so warm a Manner, and to which the Queen of Beauty had undoubtedly the strongest Title.

The *Virtues* are so many, a large Volume might be wrote of them. The Juice, taken inwardly, cures the Green-sickness, and other Infirmities of the like Sort, and is a true Specific in most Disorders of the Fair-Sex. It indeed often causes Tumors in the Umbilical Region; but even those, being really of no ill Consequence, disperse of themselves in a few Months.

It

It chears the Heart, and exhilerates the Mind, quiets Jars, Feuds and Discontents, making the most churlish Tempers surprisingly kind and loving. Nor have private Persons only been the better for this reconciling Virtue, but whole Estates and Kingdoms; nay, the greatest Empires in the World have often received the Benefit of it; the most destructive Wars have been ended, and the most friendly Treaties been produced, by a right Application of this *Universal Medicine* among the Chiefs of the contending Parties.

If any Person is desirous to see this excellent and wonderful *Plant*, that eminent Botanist, Mr. *Philip Miller*, before mentioned, shews it in the greatest Perfection, under his own Propagation, in the Royal Physic-Garden at *Chelsea:* He calls it *The Silver-Spoon-Tree*; and is at all times ready to oblige the Ladies with a Sight of it, and readily offers it for their Use and Behoof.

An Explanation of the Technical Abbreviations made use of in the NEW DESCRIPTION *of* MERRYLAND.

Page 3. line 6.	MNSVNRS,	MONS VENERIS.
—— l. 7.	COXASIN,	COXA SINISTRA.
—— l. 7.	COXADEXT,	COXA DEXTRA.
P. 6. l. 30.	PDX,	PODEX.
P. 7. l. 1.	CPT,	CAPUT.
P. 11. l. 7.	VSCA,	VESICA.
P. 15. l. 17.	LBA,	LABIA.
—— l. 27.	CLTRS,	CLITORIS.
P. 16 .l. 2.	NMPH,	NYMPHÆ.
—— l. 15.	UTRS,	UTERUS.
P. 17, l. 9.	HMN,	HYMEN.
P. 28. l. 26.	BBY,	BUBBY.
P. 29 l. 14.	PNTL,	PINTEL.

For Farther Concernment, we refer the Reader to Mr. BAILEY's *Etymological Dictionary, Folio.*

A

NEW DESCRIPTION

OF

MERRYLAND.

Containing, A

TOPOGRAPHICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL,

AND

NATURAL HISTORY of That COUNTRY.

Desine [quapropter] *Novitate* exterritus ipsa
Expuere ex Animo Rationem; sed magis acri
Judicio, perpende, &, si tibi vera videtur,
Dede Manus; aut, si falsa est, accingere contra.

LUCRET. *Lib.* 2.

Fly no *Opinion*, Friend, because 'tis *New*;
But strictly search, and after careful View,
Reject if *False*, *embrace* it, if 'tis *True*.