

in that Town, are built altogether surrounded with water, whereby the Ships have the conveniency of lying close to them, to take in their Lading. No Houses suffered to be built near them, to be thereby secured from the casualties of Fire.

*Secondly*, That those of *Muscovy* are made *under Ground*, by digging a deep Pit, of almost the Figure of a Sugar-loaf, broad below, and narrow at the top; the sides well-plaster'd round about, and the top very close cover'd with Stone. The people of that Countrey are so very careful, to have the Corn well dried, before they put it into those Subterraneous Granaries, that, when the weather of that Northern Climat serves not to dry it sufficiently, they heat their Barns, by the means of great Ovens, and thereby very well drying their Corn, supply the deficiency of their short Summer.

## *Inquiries* *For Hungary and Transylvania.*

*In prosecution of the Engagement, published Numb. 23. p. 414, 422. we now subjoyn some other Inquiries, and first these, that were very lately recommended to a studious and inquisitive Transylvanian, who from London returned to his Countrey, and promised to procure good Answers to the following particulars, Viz.*

1. **V**hat is observable in *Hungary, Transylvania*, and the Neighbouring parts, as to Minerals, Springs, Warm Baths, Earths, Quarries, Mettals, &c. (*Reference was here given to the Inquiries concerning Mines, printed Num. 19.*)

2. *Particularly*, To inquire into the several sorts of *Antimony*, or *Antimony-core*, to be found in *Hungaria*; and to inform us of the several places, whence they are digged, to the end, that they may be sent for :

3. To inquire, where the best *Hungarian Vitriol* is to be found, and the *Cinnabaris nativa* ?

4. To give us a true account of the right *Gold*- and *Silver-Earth*- or *Ore*, said to be found at *Cranach* in *Hungary*; whence the *Gold* is called *Cranach-Gold*, first lighted upon by the care of the Emperour *Rudolphus*, and chymically wrought by his order and inspection ?

5. To inquire after, and send over some of that kind of *Vitriol*, which by credible persons is affirmed to be found chrystallized in *Transylvania*: As also, after the *Vitriol* of *Tyrol*, said to yield *Gold*.

6. To inform us of the *Salt-pits* in *Transylvania*, said to yield two sorts of perfect *Salt*, the one being a *Sal Gemma*, the other, a common *Table-Salt*. To observe how deep these *Salt-mines* lie from the surface of the *Ground*? How deep they are digg'd hitherto; and what *Damps* are met with in them, &c ?

7. To inquire after the *Veins* of *Gold* and *Quick-silver* at *Cremnitz* in *Hungary*; and the *Vein* of *Silver* at *Schemnitz* in the same *Kingdom*: And to send over some of the best *Ores* of them ?

8. To inquire, Whether the *Waters* of the *Therma*, that pass by *Schemnitz*, depose a certain sediment, which in time turns into a *yellow Stone* ?

9. Whether in the *Mines* of *Gold*, *Silver*, *Copper*, *Iron*, *Lead*, in *Hungary*, there be generally found *Quick-silver* and *Sulphur* ?

10. Whether it be true, that in the *Copper-Mines* of the place called *Herren-ground* in *Hungary*, there be found no *Quick-silver* at all ?

11. Whether it be true, that in some parts of the *Upper Hungary*, the *Ores* of *Copper*, *Iron*, and *Lead*; be sometimes so commixed, that there is often found in the upper part of the *Concrete* matter of *Iron*; in the midst, matter of *Copper*, and in the lowermost, *Lead*? And that in other places of the same *Country*, *Copperish* fluors are mixed with *Leaden* ones ?

12. Whe-

12. Whether it be true, what *Athan. Kircher* writes from Relation, That the *Ductus's* of Mettals do sometimes run *North* and *South*, sometimes *Cross-ways*?

13. Whether there be in *Hungary* such a River, as is mentioned in *Busbekius*, whose water is so hot, and which is yet so full of Fish, that he saith, one would expect, that all the Fish drawn thence, would come out boyled?

14. Whether there be Springs about *Buda* or *Alba Regalis*, that rise at the bottom of the River so hot, that those who go to bathe, dare not put their feet so low as the Sand, for fear of having them parboyled?

15. Whether there be in *Hungary* an *Avernus*, that exhaleth almost always such poisonous Steams, that Birds flying over it, do often-times fall down, either stupified, or quite dead?

16. Whether the *Iron*, that is said to be turned into *Copper*, by the *Vitriolate Springs* at *Cremnitz* or *Smolnitz* in *Hungary*, do after that *Transmutation* or *Precipitation*, contain a pretty deal of *Gold*?

17. Whether the Depth of the *Gold-Mines* of *Hungary* be 2400 feet?

18. Whether they find Trees, or any other Bodies in the solid Salt of their Salt-Mines.

19. Whether there be a great Lake in *Moravia*, whence of late years all the Waters were by accident drawn away, though formerly carrying Boats, and full of Fish?

20. Whether it be true, what is affirmed by Authors, That in some parts of *Hungary* near the *Gold-Mines*, the Leaves of the Trees have their lower superficies, if not their upper also, gilded over with yellowish Exhalations?

21. What is the way, said to be used in *Austria* and *Hungary*, of extracting the perfect Mettals out of their *Minera's* without *Lead*; performed by casting a Powder upon the *Minera*, which makes a quick and advantageous separation; Sulphur being supposed to be an Ingredient of it?

*Inquiries*  
*For Ægypt, by Thomas Henshaw Esq;*

1. **W**Hether it rain there at any time, and if so, what time of the Year? Whether Rain make the Air wholsom, or pestilential, or otherwise unhealthful?

2. To consider the *Niter* that is commonly sold there, and what affinity there is betwixt *that*, and our *common Saltpeter*: to try by dissolving it in warm water, filtering it well, then boyling almost half away, and putting the remainder in an earthen Pan, and setting it in a cool place for two dayes, to see whether it will shoot into *Chrystals of Pester*. To send some quantity of it into *Europe*.

3. Whether the Earth of *Ægypt*, adjoyning to the River *Nilus*, preserv'd and weigh'd daily, keeps the same weight, till the 17<sup>th</sup> of *June*, and then grows daily heavier with the increase of the River?

4. Whether, if the *Plague* be never so great before, yet on the first day of the *Nile's* increase, it not only increaseth, but absolutely ceaseth, not one dying of it after?

5. To inquire particularly into the manner of *Hatching Eggs* in *Ægypt*; How the *Camel-dung* is prepar'd, wherein they are laid? how often the Eggs are turn'd? how cover'd? Whether they hatch in Twenty one dayes, as they do with us under a Hen? Whether the Chickens be as perfect as ours? If imperfect, Whether that may not happen to them by rough handling, while they are remov'd, being very tender, out of the place where they are hatch'd? To take the design of the manner, how by the Pipes the heat is convey'd into several Rooms. How they treat them betwixt the time of their hatching, and taking away by the Owners? Whether they do not also use to hatch Eggs under Hens?

6. To inquire, Whether the great quantity of *Yellow Amber*, which is sold at *Cairo*, be by reason that it is the *Gum* of a certain Tree growing in *Egypt*, or *Ethiopia*, as *Bellonius* after *Diodorus Siculus* affirms? And whether, besides several Animals that are found inclosed in that *Amber*, there is very frequently some part of the Bark of a Tree found sticking to it?

7. To inquire of a certain Tree, growing not far from *Cairo*, which bears a Fruit stuffed with Wooll, that is finer than Silk, of which the *Arabs* make Linnen that is softer than Silk, and whiter than Cotton?

8. Whether *Crocodiles*, that are found to be sometimes Thirty foot long, are hatched of an Egge, no bigger than a Turkeys?

9. Whether the *Ichneumon*, or *Egyptian Water-Rat* can kill a *Crocodile*, by skipping into his Mouth, and gnawing his way out, as Old Writers affirm?

10. Whether it be true, That the *Arabs* can Charm the *Crocodiles*; or, Whether there be on the *Nile's* side any *Talismans*, or Constellated Figures, beyond which the *Crocodiles* cannot pass; as some would make us believe?

11. To inquire at *Cairo* for several *Droques*, which are common there, and much in use, yet not brought into *Europe*, as *Acacia*, *Calamus Odoratus*, *Amomum*, *Costus*, *Ben Album*; and divers such others.

12. Whether the *Female Palm-Tree* be not fruitful, unless she grow by the *Male*, as some would bear us in hand?

13. To inquire, Whether the Appearance of the Legs and Arms of Men, related to stand out of the ground, to a great number, at a place five Miles from *Cairo*, on *Good-Friday*, do still continue? And how that Imposture is performed?

14. Whether Children born there in the *Eighth Month*, do usually

usually live, contrary to what is believed to happen in other Countries?

15. To take an Account of the *Wooden Locks* there, which are said to be made with as great Art, as those of *Iron*, with us.

16. To observe the Course of the Waters, both of the *Mediterranean*, and the *Red-Sea*?

## *Inquiries* For Guiny, by Abraham Hill Esq;

1. **V**Whether the River *Niger* overflows the Countrey yearly, like *Nilus*?
2. Whether the Rain, when it falls, be often very hot, rotting the Cloaths, if not presently dryed, and breeding Worms in them?
3. Whether the Gold there, be of very different fineness, and that which is uppermost in the Mine be the finest?
4. Whether the *Palm* affords them Wine, Oyl, Vinegar, Soap, Bread; and out of the Leaves they pick Threds, making thereof very curious Works?
5. Whether they have, besides their *Palm-Wine*, a Drink made of *Grain*, like our Ale? What Grain that is, and how prepar'd?
6. Whether their Arrows, they make, be poysonous? By what Tree, and how prepar'd?
7. Whether some People on the River *Gambra*, be only Tawny, as others very Black?
8. Whether the *Negroes* have such sharp sights, that they discover a Ship at Sea much farther off, than the *Europeans* can?
9. **V**What Reason there is to conclude, That the Common People being accustomed to drink *V*Water, is the cause, that they are troubled with *V*Worms in their Bodies, very painful to them, and difficult to get out?

F I N I S.

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