

And the Prince of Latin Poets, *Virgil*, saw amongst his *Heroes* in his flowry *Elysum*, the Valiant for their Countrey, the Eloquent, and the Inventors of Arts for humane Accomodations, and those who purchas'd lasting Honor by real merit : These, he saw there crown'd with Garlands as white as snow :

*Heic manus, ob patriam pugnando vulnera passi;*  
*Quique pii Vates, & Phæbo digna locuti;*  
*Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per Artes,*  
*Quique sui memores alios fecere merendo :*  
*Omnibus his niveâ cinguntur tempora vittâ.*

} *Æneid. 6. v.*  
 } 660.

These old Eloges do justly belong to our Noble Friends and worthy Correspondents, who do spend so much of their Lives, and Labors, (and some their Treasures also,) to oblige even the ungrateful, and their yet unborn Posterity.

Now I go on chearfully and with a resolv'd mind, beginning with

*A Letter, not long since written to the Publisher by an Experienced person residing at Amsterdam, containing a true Description of Nova Zembla, together with an intimation of the advantage of its shape and position.*

S I R,

**I** Herewith send you what I have received out of *Muscovy*, which is a New Mapp of *Nova Zembla* and *Weigats*, as it hath been discover'd by the express order of the *Czar*; and drawn by a Painter, called *Panelapoetski*, who sent it me from *Mosco* for a present : By which it appears, That *Nova Zembla* is not an Island, as hitherto it hath been believ'd to be; and that the *Mare glaciale* is not a Sea, but a *Sinus* or Bay, the waters whereof are sweet. Which is the same with what the *Tartars* do also assure us, who have tasted those waters in the very midst of the *Sinus*. The *Samojeds* as well as the *Tartars* do unanimously affirm, that passing on the back of *Nova Zembla*, at a considerable distance from the shore, Navigators may well pass as far as *Japan*. And 'tis a great fault in the *English* and *Dutch*, that seeking to get to *Japan* on the South-side of *Nova Zembla*, they have almost always pass'd the *Weigats*. The letter O in the great

A 2

River

River *Oby* marks the place of a Cataract or Fall of Waters. The letter *K* denotes the conjunction of *Zembla* with the Continent. The River marked *L*, runs towards *China*, called *Kitaie*: which is not every where navigable, by reason of the rocks and other inconveniences that obstruct the passing of vessels. *Weigats* itself is very difficult to pass, because of the great quantity of Ice, continually falling into it out of the river *Oby*, whereby that freight passage is stopp'd up. The *Samajeds* go every year a fishing upon the said sweet Sea and that on *Nova Zembla's* side\*.  
\* See the Fig. annexed.

*A way of extracting a Volatil Salt and Spirit out of Vegetables; intimated in Numb. 100. p. 7002; Experimented, and imparted by the Learned and Intelligent Dr. Daniel Coxe, Fellow of the R. Society.*

**T**AKE, in warm weather, a considerable quantity of the Leaves of any Vegetable, stripp'd or pulled from the greater stalks; lay it on a heap, pressing it pretty close together: They will soon become very hot, especially in the middle, and after a few days resolve into a pappy substance (excepting the outward leaves,) which being made into pellets, and put into a Glass-retort, and distilled, will yield, besides a great quantity of liquor, much thick black Oyl of a balsamick consistence. The liquor being separated from the Oyl, and distilled in a tall Glass-body, a *Volatil* Spirit sublimes, which, after one, two or three rectifications, becomes perfectly *Urinous*, not to be distinguish't, by smell or taste, from well-rectified Spirit of Harts-horn, Blood, Urine, or Sal Armoniac.

I never made tryal of any Herb, which, thus ordered, did not yield the mentioned substances; although I have examin'd many by this method of procedure; which seem'd very different from each other as well in sensible qualities, as those vulgarly called occult; such as Rue, Sage, both Celondines, *Carduus benedictus*, Tobacco, stinking Orach, garden Scurvy grafs, the lesser Spurge, Baum, Mint, Tanfy, Camomil, Monks Rhubarb, several Docks, and even Common Grafs, with many others, which it were altogether unnecessary to enumerate; besides Flowers of Elder, Pæony, Cowslips, Clove Gilliflowers, &c. with several  
forts

