

VII. Part of a Letter from William Burnet Esq;
F. R. S. to Dr. Hans Sloane, R. S. Secr. concerning the Icy Mountains of Switzerland.

Geneva, October 12, 1708.

S I R,

AFTER I had been at *Zurich*, I resolv'd to go myself and see the Mountains of Ice in *Switzerland*. Accordingly I went to the *Grindewald*, a Mountain two Days Journey from *Bern*. There I saw, between two Mountains, like a River of Ice, which divides it self in two Branches, and in its way from the top of the Mountains to the bottom swells in vast Heaps, some bigger than *St. Paul's Church*. The Original of which seems to have been this. These Mountains are covered all the Year with Snow on their Tops; this Snow has been melted in the Summer, and has fallen to the Bottom where the Sun never reaches: There it has Frozen, which every Body knows happens more easily to melted Snow than ordinary Water. Thus every Year it has increased, till it has touch'd the very Top. The reason why the Water has always frozen, tho' the Sun in the middle of the Mountain, and higher, shines upon it some part of the Day, is that the melted Water goes under the Ice already formed and there Freezes, and so expanding it self raises the Ice above it, and sometimes makes Cracks in it, that frighten the whole Neighbourhood: The reason appears plainly, because the upper Surface being solid, cannot be dilated without making great Chinks, and that with a terrible noise. They told me, upon the Place, that every seven Years the Mountain

tain increafes, and the next feven decreafes ; but I doubt their Obfervation is not exact, and I fufpect that they fay it, to feem to know something fingular. Befides there are none there that have themfelves obferved it long enough, to affirm any thing of that kind certainly. If there is any ground in that Obfervation, it feems to be, that in the hotteft Summers it increafes, and the more moderate ones it decreafes, there being then lefs melted Snow ; in which cafe it is at prefent, as we know of late the Summers have been moderate. [See *Philofoph. Transact.* Numb. 49 and 100.]

VIII. *A Brief Narrative of the Shot of Dr. Robert Fielding with a Musket-Bullet, and its ftrange manner of coming out of his Head, where it had lain near Thirty Years. Written by Himfelf.*

AT the firft *Newberry* Fight, in the Time of the late Civil Wars, the Doctor was fhoot by the Right Eye on the *Os Petrofum*, by the Orbit of the Eye to the Skull, which was likewife broke, with great Effufion of Blood from the Wound, Mouth and Noftrels.

The Surgeon carefully probing the Wound for the difcovery of the Bullet, but failing of his intention, on the third day after the Shot, plac'd him Horizontal to the Sun ; by which means depressing the broken Skull with the Probe, he could fee the Palpitation of the Brain, but could not difcover the Bullet.

When the Doctor began to grow cold, his Mouth clofed up, and fo continued for the fpace of half a Year, till many Fractures of Bones were come out of the Wound, Mouth and Noftrels ; and afterwards whenever a Scale of Bone was to come out, his Mouth would