

Some Observations

Communicated by Signior Manfredus Septalius from Milan, concerning Quicksilver found at the roots of Plants, and Shells found upon In-land Mountains.

This *Italian* Virtuoso, famous for his knowledge and curiosity, as well as for his Hospitality to ingenious strangers, did in a late Letter of his to the Publisher, impart the following Particulars.

1. In the Valley of *Lancy*, which runs between the Mountains of *Turin*, grows a Plant like the *Doronicum*, (so also called by the Inhabitants and Botanists;) near the roots whereof you may find pure Quicksilver, running in small grains like Pearls; the juice of which Plant being expressed, and exposed to the Air of a clear night, there will be found as much *Mercury*, as there is lost of Juice. * This may be compared with those Relations, which acquaint us, that in *Moravia*, *Hungary*, *Peru*, and other parts; Mineral Juices concreted are found to tick to the roots of Herbs and Trees, some of those Juices tinging also the Leaves of Vegetables.

2. In a Voyage he made a few years since to *Genna*, when he was to pass some mountains, he met with some Peasants, who digging on the sides of an Hill, had found and gathered very many *Cockle-shells* of divers kinds; which he wondring at, stopped his intended Journey, and went to the very place, where he was satisfied of the truth of the relation, finding great store of different shells, as the *Turbinets*, *Echini*, and some Pearl-shells, whereof one had a fair Pearl in it, which, he saith, he put into his *Repository*.

Observations Made by a Curious and Learned Person, sailing from England, to the Caribe-Islands.

These Observations shall be set down in the Authors own words, as they were obtained from him by Sir R. Moray; viz.

I Took notice at *Deal*, whence I set sail for *Jamaica*, of the great difference in the *rusting* of *Iron*, in such houses, as front the Sea, in comparison of that effect in the Street immediately placed behind