could not be executed by thoſe great Kings of *Egypt*, that raiſed ſo many ſtupendious *Pyramids*; although in his Opinion the reaſons alleged by *Hiſtorians* to juſtifie them for having abandoned that undertaking, are of no validity, and that the *Red Sea* cannot be, as they feared, higher than the *Nile*, and therefore not indanger the inundation of *Egypt*.

The other Propoſition was made to *Charles Magne*, *Anno* 793. for joyning the *Euxine* Sea and the *Ocean* together, by a Channel, which was begun for that end, and deſigned to be 2000. paces long, and 100. paces broad, betwixt the River *Altmull*, falling into the *Danube* above *Ratisbone*, and the River *Rott*, paſſing at *Nurenberg*, and thence running into the *Main*, and ſo into the *Rhine*. But yet this alſo proved abortive, though there was great appearance of ſucceſs at firſt.

Of A Way of killing Ratle-Snakes.

There being not long ſince occaſion given at a meeting of the *Royal Society* to diſcourſe of *Ratle-Snakes*, that worthy and inquiſitive Gentleman, Captain *Silas Taylor*, related the manner, how they were killed in *Virginia*, which he afterwards was pleaſed to give in writing, atteſted by two credible perſons in whoſe preſence it was don; which is, as follows.

The Wild *Penny-royal* or *Ditany* of *Virginia*, groweth ſtreight up about one foot high, with the leaves like *Penny royal*, with little blue tufts at the joyning of the branches to the Plant, the colour of the Leaves being a reddiſh green, but the Water diſtilled, of the colour of Brandy, of a fair Yellow: the Leaves of it bruiſed are very hot and biting upon the Tongue: and of theſe, ſo bruiſed, they took ſome, and having tyed them in the cleft of a long ſtick, they held them to the Noſe of the *Ratle-Snake*, who by turning and wriggling laboured as much as ſhe could to avoid it: but ſhe was killed with it, in leſs than half an hour's time, and, as was ſuppoſed, by the ſcent thereof; which was done *Anno* 1657. in the Month of *July*, at which ſeaſon, they repute thoſe creatures to be in the greateſt vigour for their poiſon.