

from gunpowder placed on a piece of ice may be fired by the reflexion of a burning glass.

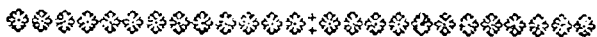
For these philosophical reasons the author adds a moral one, of no small weight; it is, that the truth of his relation can be attested by thousands of persons living. He adds, that this undertaking has given rise to these new discoveries: 1<sup>st</sup>, that it is possible to raise a tower out of ice, the structure wholly of ice. 2<sup>d</sup>, That ice is capable of being turned in the wheel, hollow'd, cur'd, carved, painted, or even set on fire, if smear'd with Naphtha; nay, even that it may be employ'd as artillery, without the necessity, as was imagin'd, of lining the cannons composed of it with cotton.

This is a common edifice flood from the beginning of January 1740, till towards the middle of March 1740, when it began to melt, and in a short time melted entirely away.

Mr. Haffner next proposes several ingenious conjectures, relating to the probability of forecasting such winters as are remarkably severe, such as those of 1709 and 1740. His method of calculation is this: He collects from history such plagues as mention extraordinary cold winters, beginning at that which was the 1<sup>st</sup> year before the annihilation, and by periodic difference to find of 1740. From this he proves, that it is at certain intervals of time such winters happen; and by a table form'd on this plan, allowing some little extension to date, differently record in history, he finds that these severe winters usually happen once in 30 years.

Our author finishes his piece by some observations on the degrees of cold in the winter of 1740, such as they were observ'd at *St. Petersburg*, both with respect to the thermometer, and as to the time that liquors exposed to the open air took to freeze. But as these remarks would lead us too far, we refer the reader to his work, and shall finish this extract by the following reflexion, which our relation suggests to a philosophical mind.

When we read in the Fairy Tales, or other romances, of certain wonders, as transparent palaces, or such like, we think such stories quite ridiculous, and beyond nature. It is always for want of knowing nature well, that such writers have recourse to such miraculous descriptions. Nature, narrowly and studiously observ'd, presents us with realities more surprizingly astonishing, than the strongest imagination could ever produce, or the wildest fancy describe.



N A P L E S, April 22.

THE court of Rome persisting not to deliver thirty six deserters out of the king's troops, who lately took refuge at Benevento, the king has ordered a detachment of 200 men, under the command of chevalier Negroni, with directions to join a large number of the militia, and to block up that place, till the pope effects the said deserters to be restored. The Pyrates from Barbary have of late infested these seas, that they entirely interrupt the commerce of the king's subjects, from the frequent captures they make of our trading vessels; to prevent which, four of the king's half galleys, and a Tartan cruiser, fitted out at the expence of the merchants of this city, are ordered to sail from this port to cruise upon these coasts.

*Naples, April 29.* It seems that the tumult which arose here not long ago, on the scarcity of provisions was of very bad example, since the inhabitants of Palermo, in Sicily, have lately made an insurrection on the same account, which lasted for two whole days; during which the greatest violences were committed, and the officer who has the principal direction of the customs, knocked on the head by the populace; who, not contented with this, threatened still greater mischiefs. Upon which the viceroy, hoping that his presence might contribute to restore the quiet of the city, left his palace in order to speak to the populace, and to endeavour, if possible, to oppose them. This however was far from having the good effect he expected, for while he was discoursing to them in the mildest manner possible, several musquets were discharged at him, and there is no doubt but that he would have been killed on the spot, if the garrison, tho' consisting of but an handful of men, in compassion of the mutineers, had not issued from the castle, dispersed the multitude by force, and rescued the viceroy out of their hands. It is feared that this unfortunate business will be attended with many bad consequences, as the mischievous spirit of the common people in that island is but too well known.

*Petersburg, May 6.* It is reported, and generally believed, that the disputes with the Swedes in relation to the limits of the two crowns on the frontiers of Finland are entirely communicated.

*Rome, May 5.* His holiness has directed the strongest assistance to be made to the republic of Genoa, the king of the two Sicilies, and the grand master of Malta, to give orders that the vessels which they are fitting out may act in conjunction with ours, against the corsairs of Barbary, which never do so much mischief to the commerce of Italy as at present.

*Naples, May 6.* The merchants in this capital have arm'd several Tartans, which are to join the four galleys appointed to cruise against the corsairs of Barbary; and the king has agreed to furnish forty soldiers with artillery, ammunition and biscuits, for those on board each vessel, provided that these Tartans are under the command of the commodore of the galleys. Applications have been already made to his majesty of the court of Rome, and the republic of Venice, upon this subject; and it is believed, that some resolution will be taken adequate to the evil which is so great, that the whole trade of Italy is now interrupted.

## L O N D O N.

*May 22.* By letters from Rome we are advised, that there have been lately exposed to public view in that city, five or six several prints, which represent the plan, the elevation, the profiles, and views in perspective, of the catholic church at Berlin.

'Tis in the form of a rotunda, of a 100 foot diameter, in the style of the Pantheon, but with a turret on the top.

They were sent to several of the cardinals by the secretary of the Propaganda, who intimates, as we are told, in his letters, that notwithstanding there has been more money collected for the erection of that edifice, than could reasonably be expected, yet the sum tho' very large will not be sufficient to defray the expences of finishing it, with all that beauty and magnificence, as is proposed.

*May 23.* Letters by this day's French mail inform us, that the celebrated M. Maupertuis, chief of the royal academy at Berlin, honoured with the rank of lieutenant general in his Prussian majesty's service, and frequently permitted to dine at his table, had suddenly received orders to quit the dominions of that monarch immediately, and to withdraw all his effects in a limited time.

The answer, which his most Christian majesty made to the remonstrances of his parliament, in regard to the edict for the establishment of the tax of the 20th penny, was very short; since 'twas in effect no more than this, That he was determined to be ob'd, and that the edict should be published.

The bill to prevent the importation and wear of foreign embroidery, brocade, and silver lace, has paid both houses of parliament, and lies ready for the royal Assent.

KINGSTON in JAMAICA, April 29.

The humble ADDRESS, and REPRESENTATION of the Council and Assembly of the Island of JAMAICA.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the council and assembly of your majesty's island of Jamaica, crave leave to approach your royal throne, being convinced we should be wanting in that duty we owe to your majesty, and the trust reposed in us, if we did not take the earliest occasion of laying before your majesty those burthens which disturb the happiness of your people, and threaten ruin and destruction to a colony of such importance to your majesty's government.

The expence in supporting that just and necessary war, which your majesty engaged in for vindicating the trade of your subjects, and supporting the liberty and independency of Europe, called upon us to bear a part of that burthen, which we did with a warmth and cheerfulness disproportioned to our abilities, and as we apprehend, in a much greater degree than he rest of your subjects.

These were our efforts, whilst we were labouring under an additional duty on molasses spirits, which though unavoidable from the exigency of the times, does in a most grievous manner affect the inhabitants in general, but more particularly the poorer sort, and prevents the cultivation of the unsettled lands, it being evident that sugar produced from new lands, abound with a greater proportion of syrup, than that raised from old plantations.

And whilst we are under the pressure of that duty, we had the mortification to find ourselves subjected to a further tax of one shilling and six pence per hundred imposed the last session of parliament upon all sugar produced from your majesty's colonies, which we fear, if continued, must in the end transfer that valuable