could not be executed by those great Kings of Egypt, that raised so many stupendous Pyramids; although in his Opinion the reasons alleged by Historians to justify 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 joining 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 Ratisbon, and the River Rott, passing at Nuremberg, 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 the 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 done; which is, as follows.

The Wild Penny-royal or Ditany of Virginia, growth straight 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 tied 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.