

(at the same or greater depth, in a different Soil from what they had dug through) many Roots of Trees, where it is believed the surface of the old Country was before it was covered by the Sea, (as also at *Spalding*) But having given an account thereof to Mr *Ralph Thoresby* of *Leeds* in *Yorkshire*, a year or two ago, if you think it worth the Recording, you may have it I suppose from him when you please.

V. Part of a Letter from Mr Thoresby, F. R. S. to the Publisher, giving a further account of the same.

THE Person you inquire of, is, I am sure an ingenious, obliging and good man, what you desire a transcript of, I here send you in his own words.

‘Near the River *Welland*, that runs thro the Town of ‘*Spalding* in *Lincolnshire*, at the depth of above 8 or ‘10 foot, there were found *Jettys*, as they call them, ‘to keep up the old Rivers Bank, and the head of a Tunnel that emptied the Land-water into the old River; and ‘at a considerable distance from the present River, I guess ‘20 or 30 yards, there were dug up (about the like depth) ‘several old *Boats*, which things shew that anciently the River was either much wider than now it is, or ran in another place, or both. On the other, *viz.* the North West side of the River, and more upwards in the Town, were digg’d up (at about the afore-mentioned depth) the remains of old *Tanvats* or *Pits*, a great quantity of *Ox-horns*, and the Shoe-foles, which I told you of, and I think the very *Tanners knobs*, &c. which things shew, that the surface of the Country lay anciently much lower than now it does, and has been raised by the Seas throwing in its Sand in the Maritime parts (now most inhabited) and by the ‘*Moor*

‘ *Moor* or *rotted Sedge* in the fenny parts next the high
 ‘ Country; the whole Level is about 50 miles in length, and
 ‘ 30 miles over in the broadest parts. No Record (Printed
 ‘ or MS) or Tradition whatsoever, (that I ever heard of)
 ‘ tell us when these Mutations here discoverable hap-
 ‘ pened.

‘ One thing further I will add, that lately at the laying
 ‘ of the present new Sluice or Goat (as they call it) at the
 ‘ end of *Hamorebeck*, at its fall into *Boston* Haven, taking up
 ‘ the foundation of the old Goat, they met with the *roots*
 ‘ of *Trees*, many of them issuing from their several *Boles*
 ‘ or *Trunks*, spread in the Ground, which when they had
 ‘ taken up (Roots and Earth they grew in) they met with
 ‘ a solid Gravelly and Stony Soil of the high Country kind,
 ‘ (but black and discoloured by the change that had befalln
 ‘ it) upon which hard Earth they laid the Foundation of this
 ‘ new Goat, where these Roots were dug up, was certainly
 ‘ the surface of the old Country, the certain depth whereof
 ‘ I cannot now tell you, but that it was much deeper than
 ‘ that at *Spalding*, as the Land is there at present higher.
 ‘ The *Archimedean* Screw, or Screw-like Trunk or Cylinder,
 ‘ by which the Workmen cleared themselves of Water was
 ‘ very pretty.

The matter of fact in these Relations is indisputable,
 this worthy Person being an Eye-witness, whose Letter
 coming to hand when I was reading Mr *Rays* Phy-
 sico-Theological Tract, concerning the great changes
 made in the Terraqueous Globe, I took it for an experi-
 mental confirmation of his Sentiments, that the great
 Level of the Fens running thro *Holland* in *Lincoln-*
shire, the Isle of *Ely* in *Cambridgeshire* and *Marshland* in
Norfolk, was sometimes part of the Sea, and atttered by
 Earth brought down by Floods from the upper Grounds,
 by the great quantity of Mud there subsiding, which by
 degrees raised it up. When you see or write to that In-
 genious Gentleman, please to present my humble Service to
 him.

to im, and acquaint him herewith : I have sometimes thought
 to have sent him an additional List of *Local Words*, which
 the before-mentioned *Goat (Eboracensibus Goat)* puts me in
 mind of ; the form of the *Skoe* was much like those found
 with some Urns at *Kirby Thore* in *Westmorland*, as de-
 scrib'd in the *Phil. Transf.* No 153.

VI. *Observations on the Class of Sweet Tastes, made by
 comparing the Tastes of Sweet Plants with Monsieur
 L' Emery's Chymical Analysis of them, in his Trea-
 tise of Drugs, by Sir John Floyer.*

I Observe that by our Taste we may discern all the Chy-
 mical Principles in Plants before their distillation, and
 that for want of a due observation of their Tastes, Mr
L' Emery has not fully described the Chymical Principles
 which Plants do yield in Distillation.

All Watery Plants show their Phlegm as well to the
 Taste as in Distillation ; and in all dry woody Tastes we
 observe the Earth, as well as we can by the Chymical
 Analysis.

By the Mucilage and Gumyness, or Oily Taste,
 we distinguish the Oyl of Plants, as well as by Distilla-
 tion.

The Aromatical Smell shews us the volatility of the Oyl
 and Salt of Plants, and by the foetidness we also know that
 the Oyl and Salt are in a volatile state.

By the acrimony and pungency we know that there is a
 Volatile Salt in Plants, and by their burning taste we find
 there is a Corrosive Salt in them.

By a crude rough Acidity we observe the Tartar, or
 essential Salt of Plants ; but if the Acidity be of a Vinous
 smell, we observe that 'tis of middle state of Digestion,
 and