

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 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 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 *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 Rattle-Snakes.*

There being not long since occasion given at a meeting of the *Royal Society* to discourse of *Rattle 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*, 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 *Rattle-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 hours 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.