BOOK the Sixth, of the Second Volume.

Of EARTHS.

The PREFACE.

IN this Book are contained not only the Earths *that are of Use in Medicine, but likewise those which are serviceable to the* Painters; *in a Word, all that are soft and apt to crumble, and for this Reason have not been rank'd among the* Stones. *I comprehend in this Book whatever is made from* Earths; *that is to say, that are related to our Business: I put into the Number of the* Earths *the* Catechu, *or* Cachou, *not because of its Likeness to an* Earth, *but that most People will have it to be one as the Name imports, and will appear in the following Chapter.*

1. *Of* Cachou, Cashew, *or* Japan Earth.

Pomet. CACHOU, according to Mr. *Caen*, Doctor of Physick, of the Faculty of *Paris*, suitably to what was communicated to him by one of his Friends, is an Earth that is found in the *Levant*, where it is call'd *Masquiqui*, which is usually met withal upon the highest Mountains where the Cedars grow, under the Roots of which this Earth is found, which of itself is very hard, and in a Lump. To lose nothing of this Earth, the Natives call'd, *Algonquains*, gather it up, Sand and all together, and wet it with River Water, and make it into a Paste, drying it in the Sun to the Hardness we see it of; the Natives always carry it about them, and use it for the Pain of the Stomach; they also apply it outwardly like an Oyntment upon the Region of the Stomach.

Tho' this Description of *Cachou* appears not very conformable to Truth, because there is no Probability of its being an Earth; yet as the Person, who gave this Description to Mr. *Caen*, assur'd him that it was so; and for as much as 'tis call'd in Latin *Terra Japonica*, I was oblig'd to rank this in the Class of Earths, and leave it to those to determine what it is, who understood more of it than I do:

do: All I ſhall ſay is, that you ought to chuſe *Cachou* of a tawny Red without, and of a clear Red within, the brighteſt and leaſt burnt that can be.

As *Cachou* is a very bitter Drugg, and of an unpleaſant Taſte when taken in the Mouth; it is uſual to reduce it into a fine Powder, and to mix it with *Ambergriſe*, which with the Mucilage of *Gum Tragacanth*, is made up into a Paſte, and form'd into little Pellets, in Colour and Figure having the Reſemblance of Mouſe's Dung, and the ſmaller theſe Troches are made the more valuable are they.

The Uſe of *Cachou*, whole or prepar'd, is to ſtrengthen the Stomach, and to make the Breath ſweet; and in ſhort it is one of the beſt Druggs we have, and yet at this Time the leaſt uſed, which proceeds from the great Uſe of *Tea* and *Coffee*, tho' *Cachou* is of much greater Virtues than either of them.

As *Cachou* is very unpleaſant to the Palate, eſpecially when firſt put into the Mouth; therefore ſome People, beſides the *Ambergriſe*, mix Sugar with it.

Catechu, ſive Terra Japonica, or *Cachou*, is a Sort of dry'd Paſte, hard, a little gummy, reddiſh, having the Form and almoſt the Hardneſs of a Stone, of a bitter and auſtere Taſte at the Beginning, but leaving afterwards a ſoft and agreeable Impreſſion in the Mouth; there are two Sorts of it, the firſt and moſt common is compact, heavy, of a reddiſh brown Colour, ſtreak'd with little whitiſh Rays: The Second is more porous, leſs weighty, and paler than the firſt. We are not ſufficiently inform'd concerning the Nature of *Cachou*; ſome ſaying it is a Paſte prepar'd by the *Japanners*, with the Extract of *Areca*, *Calamus Aromaticus*, *Liquorice*, *&c.* mix'd and harden'd together over the Fire: Others pretend that it is made with the Juices of *Areca*, and the green Bark of a thorny Tree of *Japan*, call'd *Catechu*, and thicken'd together by Heat. Others, as ſome Moderns maintain, that it is an Earth from the *Levant*, call'd *Maſquiqui*, [as deſcrib'd by *Pomet*]; but after all *Cachou* does not appear to the Taſte to be any Thing of an Earth, but rather a thick Juice; beſides, there is drawn from it, by Chymical *Analyſis*, a great deal of Oil and Eſſential Salt, like what is drawn from Plants. It is good to ſtrengthen the Brain, Lungs, Stomach; againſt Catarrhs, and to correct a ſtinking Breath.

Pomet.

2. *Of* Seal'd Earth.

Terra Sigillata, or *Seal'd Earth*, is a Kind of white *Bole*, ſometimes a little reddiſh, that is moiſten'd with Water, and afterwards form'd into little Cakes half round, of the Bigneſs of one's Thumb, upon which is ſtampt ſeveral Characters: The Variety of Figures, Colours, and different Seals, that are found upon the *Terra Sigillata*, makes me think that every one makes 'em to his Fancy; and that it is nothing but a fat aſtringent Earth, that is more or leſs colour'd, and reduc'd into ſuch Cakes as are brought us. I ſhall not ſtop here to relate all the fabulous or true Stories which the Ancients have told concerning the Native Place whence this Earth comes, and the Ceremonies us'd when it is gather'd, nor how the *Grand Signior* ſigns it with his own Seal, *&c.* but I ſhall tell you that the Earth that is moſt us'd and eſteem'd, is that which is in little reddiſh Cakes, the leaſt ſandy or gravelly, and the moſt aſtringent that you can get.

Pomet.

It is much uſed in Medicine becauſe of its aſtringent Quality: It is alſo an Ingredient of *Venice Treacle*, and needs no other Preparation than to have the above-deſcrib'd Qualifications.

As to the *Earth* of *Lemnos*, 'tis ſaid to be the ſame with the *Seal'd Earth*, but in its natural State, without any Impreſſion upon it.

Terra Sigillata, Terra Lemnia, ſeal'd, or *Lemnian* Earth, is a Kind of Bole, or fatty clayey Earth, that is dry, ſoft, and friable; ſometimes yellowiſh, whitiſh, or reddiſh, inſipid, and aſtringent to the Taſte; they bring it ſometimes into the Iſle of *Lemnos*, but it

Lemery.

it comes at present from *Constantinople*, *Germany*, *Blois*, and several other Parts: It comes ordinarily form'd into little round Cakes about the Thickness of one's Thumb, roundish on one Side, and flat on the other, by a Signet engrav'd with some Arms or certain Devices that the Prince of the Country causes to be put upon it, and this is the Reason why it is call'd *Seal'd Earth*: That of the Ancients was yellow, and made into Cakes much smaller than these at present are, and had engrav'd upon 'em the Arms of *Diana* under the Representation of a Goat.

Chuse your *Seal'd Earth* that is soft to the Touch, clayey, apt to crumble, and of a whitish red Colour, that will cleave to the Tongue; they tinge or colour it sometimes with Turmerick, or some other Drugg, to make it come up to the Colour of the Ancients, which is the true *Lemnian Earth*, and was taken from a Hill where no Plant grew. The *Turks*, who are the present Masters of it, mix this with other Earths of the same Nature; and having kneaded them together with Water, make 'em up into little round Cakes, which they seal with the *Grand Signior*'s Signet to make it pay Duty. This Earth is a good Antidote against Poison, proper for Fluxes, Hemorrhages, Gonorrhea, Whites and Vomiting. Dose from half a Scruple to two Scruples; it is outwardly us'd to stop Blood, dry up Wounds, and strengthen the Joynts.

3. *Of* Fine Bole, *or* Bole Armoniack.

Pomet. IF we have several Sorts of *Seal'd Earths* we have not less of *Boles*, whereof the most esteem'd is that which has its Name from the *Levant* or *Armenia*, whether because it formerly was brought from those Parts, or that those who deal in it may make it sell the better; but as I have never seen any of that, and what we now sell is found in several Parts of *France*, I must inform you the best is that we have from about *Blois* and *Saumur*, or from *Bourgogne*, and which is of various Colours, as grey, red, and yellow; the yellow is the most valued, because it passes the readyest for *Bole* of the *Levant*, and because it fits the Gilders best.

As these Boles are the dearest, because of the Charge in transporting 'em to *Paris* from *Blois* or *Saumur*; we prefer that of *Baville* and other Places about *Paris*, because the Peasants bring it us at a cheaper Rate than we can buy the other. The best is the cleanest, smoothest, and well colour'd, of a light yellowish Red, which being tasted seems to melt like Butter in the Mouth; its Thickness is known by sticking to the Tongue: The counterfeit or adulterate Bole is of a sad deep Red, sandy and gritty, being indeed not of a third Part of the Price: It is very drying and astringent, good against Fluxes and Gleets; it thickens thin Humours, resists Putrefaction, and expells poysonous Bodies: It is likewise us'd in spitting of Blood, bleeding Wounds; and also to consolidate broken Bones, strengthen weak Limbs.

Bolus, or *Bole*, is a soft, brittle, reddish, or yellow Earth, which is brought us in Pieces of different Shapes and Sizes; the finest comes from the *Levant* and *Armenia*, call'd *Bolus Orientalis*, *seu Bolus Armena*; but all the *Bole* we have, which is in Use amongst us at present, is brought from several Parts of *France*, and the best is about *Blois* or *Saumur*. As there is found in the Quarries or Pits a great deal of coarse and gravelly Bole, they wash it to free it from the Gravel, then make it into a hard Paste, which they form into square Sticks, about a Finger long, which is call'd *Bole in the Stick*, and is us'd externally: Bole is astringent and deficcative, proper to stop Loosness, Dysentery, Spitting of Blood, to sweeten the Acids being taken inwardly: There is also a great deal us'd externally to stop Blood, prevent Fluxion, and strengthen and consolidate. That which is call'd *White Bole* is an astringent *Marle*, but not so efficacious as the *Red Bole*.

Lemery.

4. *Of* Oker.

THE yellow and red *Oker* is one and the same Thing, for the natural Colour is yellow, and it is turn'd red by *Pomet.*

by Means of a Reverberating Furnace, in which they put it, to make it red by the Force of the Fire: All the best Mines of *Oker* in *France*, are in *Berry*; and among the rest, that which is at a Place call'd *St. George*, upon the Side of the River *D'Ucher*, two Leagues from the City *Vierzon* in *Berry*, where they dig it out of the Earth, as they do Pit-coal. This *Oker* is found 150, or 200 Foot deep in the Earth, of four to eight Inches thick; only they find under this *Oker* a white Sand, like that of *Calais*, and above the *Oker* a yellow Clay good for nothing.

There comes likewise yellow and red Oker from *England*, which is browner than that of *France*, but not so good, because it is naturally dryer, and comes from a stony Ground which they are forced to grind in a Mill; whereas that of *Berry* is more natural, fatter, and works better in Oil; so that the *Dutch* will not use the *English Oker*, but when they mix it with an equal Share of that which comes from *Berry*.

Both Sorts are us'd by the Painters, but that which is most set by, is that which is dry, soft, friable, of the highest Colour and least gravelly.

There comes besides a *Red Oker* from *England*, which we commonly call *Brown Red*; this is us'd by the Painters; but that which is of a much deeper Colour is call'd *Putty*, and they imploy it in polishing of Glass.

Ochra, in *English Oker*, is a Mass of Earth that is dry, fat, will crumble, and is soft to the Touch, of a yellow or gold Colour, that is taken form some deep Pits in *Berry*; they calcine it in the Fire, 'till it gains a red Colour, and then it is call'd *Red Oker*; both Sorts are us'd by the Painters; they are resolutive, drying, astringent, being externally apply'd. Some say there is another Sort of *Oker* call'd *Alanian Earth*, or *Tripoly*, and *Terra Albana*; it is chiefly found in *Alania*, a Place near *Scythia*, but is brought to us out of the *Mediterranean*, being a *Species* or Kind of *Oker*. *Lemery.*

5. *Of* Green Earth.

WE sell two Sorts of *Green Earth*, to wit, that of *Verona*, which is brought from about *Verona* in *Italy*, whence it takes its Name, and the common Green. *Pomet.*

The *Earth* of *Verona* ought to be stony, and as green as may be, and take care that it be not inlaid with Veins of Earth.

The common Green ought also to be of the greenest, and as near resembling that of *Verona* as you can get.

Terra Viridis, in *French Terre Verte*, is a dry Earth, of a green Colour, which is brought from *Verona* in *Italy*, and is for the Painters Use. *Lemery.*

6. *Of* Cologn Earth.

Cologn Earth is an Earth altogether like that of *Umber*, excepting only that it is browner: This is of some Use to the Painters. You must chuse such as is tender, easie to crumble, the cleanest, with as little Mixture of Dirt as possible. *Pomet.*

7. *Of* Umber.

Umber, so call'd because of its being us'd in drawing Shades, is brought to us from *Egypt*, and other Places of the *Levant*, in Lumps of different Bigness.

In the Choice of this Earth you ought to take that which is soft, in large Pieces of a brown Colour, enclining to the Red, for this is better than the grey.

Its Use is for the Painters, and before it is ground 'tis usual to burn it, as well for Painting in Oil as for the Glover, which makes it become more reddish; the Fume of it ought to be avoided, as being stinking and offensive.

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8. Of Tripoly.

Pomet. THE *Tripoly* is of two Kinds in *France*; the one they bring from *Poligny* near *Renne*, in the lower *Bretagne*; the other from a Place call'd *Menta* near *Rion* in *Auvergne*. That of *Bretagne* is most esteem'd, and the best, being more proper for *Lapidaries*, *Goldsmiths*, *Braziers*, and all other Workmen: It is taken from a Mountain at twenty or thirty Foot of Depth, and is found in Veins or Beds of about a Foot Thickness: They carry it to *Redon*, where it is ship'd and transported to *Nants*.

That of *Auvergne* is not so valuable, being not at all fit for the Use of Jewellers, Goldsmiths, or Braziers, because it has not Substance; and also rises into thin Leaves like Paper, when 'tis dry. It is only us'd for scouring Houshold Stuff, and is found almost in the very outer Surface of the Earth.

'Tis said that *Tripoly* is a Stone that becomes light by Means of certain Veins of sulphureous Earth that are burnt under the *Tripoly*, and which gives it the Quality of whitning, polishing, and brightning the Copper.

There are also Mines of *Tripoly* in *Italy* and other Places; but as this Commodity is of little Value and Consumption, it is not much sought after; besides which we have it in *France*, and there is no Occasion to bring it from other Parts.

Lemery. *Alana*, in *French Tripoly*, is a light white Stone, tending a little upon the red, which they take from several Mines of *Bretagne*, *Auvergne*, and *Italy*. 'Tis believ'd that the Lightness of this Stone proceeds from its being calcin'd by the subterranean Fires. We have two Sorts in *France*; the first and the best is that from a Mountain near *Renne* in *Bretagne*. It is found laid in Beds of about a Foot thick, and is us'd by the Lapidaries, &c. to whiten and polish their Works. The second Sort is brought from *Auvergne*; this divides itself into Flakes or Leaves, and is of no Use to the Lapidaries or Braziers, but serves to scour Pots and Kettles, and other Utensils belonging to the Kitchin: It is detersive and drying apply'd outwardly, but of no Use in Medicine.

9. Of Indian Red.

THE *Indian Red*, or *Persian Earth*, is what we improperly call *English Red*; this is a very dear Drugg, especially such as is in little Pieces, moderately hard, and of a high Colour. This Red is us'd by none but the Shoemakers, who steep it in the White of an Egg to colour Shoe-Heels with. Pomet.

We have besides this, several other Sorts of Earths that come from the Pits; as Marle that some sell by the Name of *White Bole*, and many other wash'd Earths; as *Roüen White*, that of *Seve* and *Port Neüilli*, *Champaigne Chalk*, and others; of which we sell none, because we can easily come at them, as the *Smectim* or *Fullers Earth*, which is a fat, smooth, sticking Earth that is heavy, sometimes yellowish, and sometimes blackish. This is much us'd by the Cloathiers in *England*; and because this Earth does almost the same Thing as Soap, the *Latins* call it *Terra Saponaria*, or *Soap Earth*; also the *Mexican Earth*, which is a very white Earth, which the People of *Mexico* make use of to whiten with, and in Medicine like Ceruse; and likewise it serves to polish Silver.

The *Marga* is a Kind of white Stone very like to *Champagne Chalk*. The *Lithomarga*, or *Stenomarga*, is what we call *Stone Pith*, or *Mineral Agarick*, or *Moon-Milk*; this Stone is found in the Chinks or Apertures of the Rocks in several Parts of *Germany*, and different Names have been given to this Stone, because it is very white and crumbling, and that this Whiteness comes from its being calcin'd by the Vapours which arise from Metals.

There is, besides, several other Sorts of Earths, as the *Eretrian Earth*, the *Samian Earth*, *Chio*, *Selinusian* and *Cimolian Earths*, and *Tobacco-pipe Clay*; with many others whereof several Authors make mention.

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As to the Preparation of Stones or Earths, that is done ordinarily two Ways, that is to ſay, by grinding on a Porphyry or Marble, in like Manner as Sea Shells, Pearl, Hyacinth, Topazes, Emeralds, Sapphirs, Corals, Load-ſtone, Lapis Calaminaris, Tutty, and the like, are ground. The ſecond Way is by pounding in a Mortar with Water, in order to reduce them to a fine Powder, as we do Lytharge, Ceruſe, and Minium. The firſt, after they have been levigated, are made into Troches with Roſe Water, and the next into Tablets with common Water.

Lemery. *Terra Perſica*, or *Indian Red*, is a dry red Earth that is brought us in little Stones that are of a moderate Hardneſs; the Shoe-makers uſe 'em to dye Shoe-heels red; chuſe the deepeſt colour'd. *Terra Saponaria*, in *French Smectin*, or *Fullers Earth*, is a Kind of ſlippery glutinous Earth, that is heavy, of a yellow or blackiſh Colour, and does the ſame Thing as Soap, whence it was call'd *Soap Earth*, or the Earth the *Fullers* uſe to ſcour with. The *Terra Selinuſia* is a greaſy or clayey Earth, that is very like that of *Chio*; it is aſtringent and reſolutive, proper to take away Spots and Chops of the Skin, to ſoften Tumours of the Breaſt and Teſticles, and to reſolve. The *Chio* Earth is a Kind of ſeal'd Earth, or a fatty, ſticky, aſh-colour'd Earth that is brought from *Chio*; it is aſtringent, and removes Spots, *&c.* *Terra Samia*, or *Samian Earth*, is what comes from the Iſle of *Samos*, and is of two Kinds; one is ſoft, white, and crumbling, that ſticks to the Tongue when apply'd to it, and is very like ſeal'd Earth. Some People call it *Collyrium*, becauſe it ſerves ſometimes to relieve the Eyes; the other is cruſty and hard, tho' ſomething unctuous, they call this *Samius Aſter*, becauſe it is found in ſhining Spangles, like Stars.

Beſides there is *Marga*, *Lithomarga*, *Stenomarga*, *Medulla Saxorum*, *Agaricus Mineralis*, *Lac Lunæ*, or *Stone Pith*, *Mineral Agarick*, *Moon Milk*, which is a Kind of ſoft, friable, pithy, very white Stone, reſembling Chalk, which is found in the Clefts of Rocks in ſome Parts of *Germany*; it is deterſive, aſtringent, drying, conſolidating, which diſſolves coagulated Blood, and may be us'd inwardly and outwardly.

Mr. *Pomet* obſerves in his Annotations made at the End of his Book, that this *Stone Pith* is found on the Side of the Signiory of *Moſcow*, belonging to the Elector of *Saxony*, and near *Gironne* in *Catalonia*; that the Inhabitants of thoſe Parts chuſe ſome of this Earth after the Sun is down and has warm'd it, that has little Balls on it like Meal, with which they make Bread, mixing it with ſome true Flower, which has been confirm'd by ſeveral other Naturaliſts.

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