

“ artificial Fiffure of the Wood, or other fuch Deceit,
 “ intervene.”

In fine, the Cafe is thus: Such as were wont to be frighted with Hobgoblins from their Infancy, hear the Rufpling of Phantoms a great way off, and fee them walk at Noon-day; while others, who have learned to inquire into the Caufes of Things, are by thofe accounted dull of Sight and Hearing.

XVII. *Part of a Letter from Sir John Clark, one of the Barons of His MAJESTY's Exchequer in Scotland, and F. R. S. to Rog. Gale, Esq; Tr. R. S. Nov. 6. 1731.*

— I Was lately in *Cumberland*, where I obferved three Curiofities in *Whinfield-Park*, belonging to the Earl of *Thanet*. The firft was a huge Oak, at leaft fixty Foot high, and four in Diameter, upon which the laft great Thunder had made a very odd Impreffion; for a Piece was cut out of the Tree about three Inches broad, and two Inches thick, in a ftrait Line from Top to Bottom. The fecond was, that in another Tree of the fame Heighth, the Thunder had cut out a Piece of the fame Breadth and Thicknefs, from Top to Bottom, in a fpiral Line, making three Turns about the Tree, and entering into the Ground above fix Foot deep. The third was the Horn of a large Deer found in the Heart of an Oak, which was difcovered upon cutting down the
 the

the Tree. It was found fixed in the Timber with large iron Cramps; it seems therefore, that it had at first been fastened on the Outside of the Tree, which in growing afterwards had inclosed the Horn. In the same Park I saw a Tree thirteen Feet of Diameter.

Remarks by the *Publisher*.

THIS Horn of a Deer found in the Heart of an Oak, and that fastened with Iron Cramps, is one of the most remarkable Instances of this kind, it being the largest extraneous Body we have any-where recorded to have been thus buried, as it were, in the Wood of a Tree. If *Joannes Meyerus*, and *Joannes Petrus Albrechtus*, (p. 233.) had seen this, they could not have imagined the Figures seen by them in Beech-trees to have been the Sport of Nature, but must have confessed them to have been the Sport of an idle Hand. To the same Cause are to be ascribed those Figures of *Crucifix's*, *Virgin Mary's*, &c. found in the Heart of Trees; as, for Example, the Figure of a *Crucifix*, which I myself saw at *Mastricht*, in the Church of the *White Nuns* of the Order of *St. Augustin*, said to be found in the Heart of a Walnut-tree upon its being split with Lightning. And it being usual in some Countries to nail small Images of *our Saviour* on the Cross, of *Virgin Mary's*, &c. to Trees by the Road-side, in Forests and on Commons; it would be no greater a Miracle to find any of these buried in the Wood of the Tree, than it was to find the Deer's Horn so lodged.

Sir *Hans Sloane*, in his noble *Museum*, hath a Log of Wood brought by Mr. *Cunningham* from an Island in the *East-Indies*, which, upon being split, exhibited these Words in *Portuguese*, DA BOA ORA. i. e. Det [*Deus*] bonam Horam.

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