

Although there are some examples of winter frosts having reduced us to a scarcity of bread, and deprived us of vegetables, the damage which spring frosts occasion becomes still more important, because they afflict us more frequently, and their effects are felt almost every year.

To consider frost even very superficially, we must perceive that the effects produced by the sharp frosts of winter are very different from what are occasioned by those in spring, since the one attacks the body and most solid parts of trees, whereas the other simply destroys their productions, and opposes their growth; at the same time they act under quite different circumstances; and it is not always the ground in which the winter frosts produce the greatest disorders, as that generally suffers most from those in the spring frosts.

It was from a great number of observations that we have been able to make this distinction on the effects of frost, and which we hope will not be simply curious, but prove of utility, and be profitable to agriculture; and should they not wholly enable us to escape from the evils occasioned by frost, they will afford us a means to guard against them. We shall, therefore, enter upon the detail, beginning with that which regards the sharp frosts of winter: