

easily conceivable how this sappy part of wood has been changed so far as not to become wood, and that far from being dead, it was even in a state of supplying the ligneous coats with sap, which are formed from above in a state of perfection, and which may be compared to the wood of trees that have suffered no accident. This must nevertheless have been done by the hard winter, which caused an incurable malady to this part of the tree; for if it were dead, as well as the bark which cloathed it, there can be no doubt that the tree would have entirely perished, which happened in 1709 to many trees whose bark was detached from them, and which by the remaining sap in their trunk, shot forth their buds in spring, but died through weakness before autumn, for want of receiving sufficient nutriment to subsist on.

We have met with some of these false sappy part of trees which are thicker on one side than the other, and which surprisingly agrees with the most general state of the sap. We have also seen others very thin, so that apparently there were only the outer coats injured. These were not all of the same colour, had not undergone an equal alteration, nor were equally affected, which agrees with what we have before advanced. At length, we dug at the
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