The beſt time of collecting it Mr. Broſſard has found to be in the autumn, in fine weather, after great heats.

This, then, Sir, is all I can collect of the uſe, application, and preparation of this new remedy for ſtopping blood. If the Royal Society ſhall find any thing in it worthy their regard, I ſhall think myſelf happy in having communicated theſe obſervations. I am

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

Faget.

XCV. *A Letter of* Benjamin Franklin, *Eſq*; *to Mr.* Peter Collinſon, *F. R. S. concerning an* electrical Kite.

Philadelphia, Oct. 1, 1752.

Read Dec. 21 1752.

AS frequent mention is made in the public papers from Europe of the ſucceſs of the Philadelphia experiment for drawing the electric fire from clouds by means of pointed rods of iron erected on high buildings, *&c.* it may be agreeable to the curious to be informed, that the ſame experiment has ſucceeded in Philadelphia, tho' made in a different and more eaſy manner, which any one may try, as follows:

Make a ſmall croſs, of two light ſtrips of cedar; the arms ſo long, as to reach to the four corners of a large thin ſilk handkerchief, when extended: tie the corners of the handkerchief to the extremities of the croſs; ſo you have the body of a kite; which being

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being properly accommodated with a tail, loop, and ſtring, will riſe in the air like thoſe made of paper; but this, being of ſilk, is fitter to bear the wet and wind of a thunder-guſt without tearing.

To the top of the upright ſtick of the croſs is to be fixed a very ſharp-pointed wire, riſing a foot or more above the wood.

To the end of the twine, next the hand, is to be tied a ſilk riband; and where the twine and ſilk join, a key may be faſten'd.

The kite is to be raiſed, when a thunder-guſt appears to be coming on, (which is very frequent in this country) and the perſon, who holds the ſtring, muſt ſtand within a door, or window, or under ſome cover, ſo that the ſilk riband may not be wet; and care muſt be taken, that the twine does not touch the frame of the door or window.

As ſoon as any of the thunder-clouds come over the kite, the pointed wire will draw the electric fire from them; and the kite, with all the twine, will be electrified; and the looſe filaments of the twine will ſtand out every way, and be attracted by an approaching finger.

When the rain has wet the kite and twine, ſo that it can conduct the electric fire freely, you will find it ſtream out plentifully from the key on the approach of your knuckle.

At this key the phial may be charged; and from electric fire thus obtain'd ſpirits may be kindled, and all the other electrical experiments be performed, which are uſually done by the help of a rubbed glaſs globe or tube, and thereby the ſameneſs of the electric

tric matter with that of lightning completely demonſtrated.

I was pleaſed to hear of the ſucceſs of my experiments in France, and that they there begin to erect points upon their buildings. We had before placed them upon our academy and ſtate-houſe ſpires.

XCVI. *A Letter of Mr.* W. Watſon, *F. R. S. to the* Royal Society, *concerning the electrical Experiments in* England *upon* Thunder-Clouds.

To the Royal Society.

Gentlemen,

Read Dec. 21, 1752. AFTER the communications, which we have received from ſeveral of our correſpondents in different parts of the continent, acquainting us with the ſucceſs of their experiments laſt ſummer, in endeavouring to extract the electricity from the atmoſphere during a thunder-ſtorm, in conſequence of Mr. Franklin's hypotheſis, it may be thought extraordinary, that no accounts have been yet laid before you, of our ſucceſs here from the ſame experiments. That no want of attention, therefore, may be attributed to thoſe here, who have been hitherto converſant in theſe inquiries, I thought proper to appriſe you, that, though ſeveral members of the Royal Society, as well as myſelf, did, upon the firſt advices from France, prepare and ſet up the neceſſary apparatus for this purpoſe, we were defeated in our expectations, from the uncommon coolneſs and dampneſs