

now. Mr. *Isaac Narris*, a wealthy merchant, who has a considerable share in the government of *Pensylvania*, confirmed this by a particular account. His father, one of the first *English* merchants in this country, observed, that in his younger years, the river *Delaware* was commonly covered with ice, about the middle of *November*, old style, so that the merchants were obliged to bring down their ships in great haste before that time, for fear of their being obliged to lie all winter. On the contrary, this river seldom freezes over at present, before the middle of *December*, old style.

It snowed much more in winter, formerly, than it does now; but the weather in general was likewise more constant and uniform; and when the cold set in, it continued to the end of *February*, or till *March*, old style, when it commonly began to grow warm. At present, it is warm, even the very next day after a severe cold; and sometimes the weather changes several times a day.

MOST of the old people here were of opinion, that spring came much later at present, than formerly, and that it was now much colder in the latter end of *February*, and the whole month of *May*, than when they were young. Formerly the fields were as green, and the air as warm, towards the end of *February*, as it is now in *March*, or in the beginning of *April*, old style. The *Swedes* at that time made use of this phrase: *Pask bitida, Pask sent, altid Gras*, that is, we have always grass at *Easter*, whether it be soon or late in the year. But perhaps we can account as follows,