

the people to be more unhealthy at present, than they were formerly.

I likewise found every body agree in asserting, that the winter, betwixt the autumn of the year 1697, and the spring of the year 1698, was the coldest and the severest which they had ever felt.

Apr. 6th. *SANGUINARIA Canadensis*, which is here called *Blood-root*, because the root is great and red, and, when cut, looks like the root of red beet, and the *Epigæa repens*, which some call the *creeping ground Laurel*, were both beginning to flower. The former grew in a rich mould, the other in a poorer soil.

THE *Laurus æstivalis*, which some people call *Spice-wood*, likewise began to blossom about this time; its leaves were not yet broke out; it liked a moist soil in the woods.

Apr. 9th. *APOCYNUM Cannabinum* was by the *Swedes* called *Hemp of the Indians**; and grew plentifully in old corn-grounds, in woods, on hills, and in high glades. The *Swedes* have given it the name of *Indian hemp*, because the *Indians* formerly, and even now, apply it to the same purposes as the *Europeans* do hemp; for the stalk may be divided into filaments, and is easily prepared. When the *Indians* were yet settled among the *Swedes*, in *Pensylvania* and *New Jersey*, they made ropes of this *Apocynum*, which the *Swedes* bought, and employed them as bridles, and for nets. These ropes were stronger, and kept longer in water, than such as were made of common hemp. The *Swedes* commonly got fourteen

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