

of Wind does not pass, the Gale varying its place often. But it is believed that there are also many great Fountains all over the Lake: these Springs do very probably flow from some vast Cavities that are in the neighbouring Mountains, which are a great Cisterns that discharge themselves in the Valleys which are covered over with Lakes. And on the two sides of the *Alps*, both North and South, there is so great a number of those little Seas, that it may be easily guessed they must have vast Forces that feed so constantly those huge Ponds. And when one considers the height of those Hills, the chain of so many of them together, and their extent both in length and breadth; if at first he thinks of the old Fables of laying one Hill upon the top of another, he will be afterwards apt to imagine, according to the ingenious Conjecture of one that travelled over them oftner than once, that these cannot be the primary Productions of the Author of Nature, but are the vast ruins of the first World, which at the Deluge broke here into so many Inequalities.

One Hill not far from *Geneva*, called *Maudit*, or Cursed, of which one Third is always covered with Snow, is two miles of perpendicular height, according to the Observation of that incomparable Mathematician and Philosopher, *Nicolas Fatio Duilier*, who at Twenty two Years of Age is already one of the greatest men of his Age, and seems to be born to carry Learning some sizes beyond what it has yet attain'd.

But now I will entertain you a little with the State of *Bern*, for that Canton alone is above a third part of all *Switzerland*. I will say nothing of its Beginnings nor History: nor will I enlarge upon the Constitutions which are all well known. It has a Counsel of Two hundred, that goes by that Name, tho' it consists almost of Three hundred; and another of Twenty five, as *Geneva*. The chief Magistrates are two *Advoyers*, who are not annual, as the *Sindicks* of *Geneva*, but are for life, and have an Authority not unlike that of the