

from credible Witnesses, yet I forbear to mention, and not to overburden the Belief of the Reader. Over-against this wonderful Vein of Land, on the other Side of the Valley of *Oroncota*, stands that famous Piece of Land they call *Pucara*, which signifies in their Language Fortrefs, it is a Place the best fortify'd by Nature of any now known in the World, being situate very high, seven Leagues in Compass, and all furrounded with high and inaccessible Hills, only on the one Side there is a small Avenue after having past a very difficult Ascent. In it's spacious Fields, on the Top, there be many fine Brooks of Water, Wood, Pasture-ground, Commons, and Wastes, very commodious for the Support of Human Life.

C H A P. XVIII.

Of the Generation of Metals.

IT is no Wonder, that learned Men differ so much in their Opinions, about the Matter whereof Metals are engendred, because the Author of Nature seems to have created them in that Obscurity, and Depth, and to have immur'd them with hard Rocks on Purpose to hide their Causes, and to give Check to the Ambition of Man.

The Philosophers, who pretend to know the Causes of Things, besides the first Matter, which