

There are of them of several colours, as the *White*, the *Red*, and the *Black*; now and then there are found some of two colours, as *Red*, and *Black*.

The *Red* is the most common, and most in use; it is chosen of a deep colour; the *White* is more rare than the *Red*. A certain white stone very spongy, that is like unto *Coral*, is brought among us, which is mistaken for true *white Coral* by those that don't know it, but the true is not at all spongy; it is rather very compact, and as white as Ivory; *Black Coral* is the greatest rarity of them all.

If you put the branches of *Red Coral* to infuse a day or two in melted white Wax, upon hot embers, the *Coral* will lose its former colour, and become white, and the wax will assume a yellow colour. The Wax must be a fingers breadth above the *Coral*.

If you should put other *red Coral* to steep in the same Wax, it would turn brown.

If again the third time you should put *red Coral* to steep in the same wax, the wax would then become red.

The wax dissolves a little of the bituminous matter that is upon the *Coral*, and which did render it red: this operation is done only for curiosity.

Many persons do hang *red Coral* about the neck, in order to stop Hæmorrhagies, to purifie the blood, and to fortifie the heart. I believe that which gave occasion to think it has such excellent virtues, was its Red colour, which is like to that of the blood, and the heart; but experience does no way confirm, that outwardly applied, it has any such effects.