

18 *The Nature of the Barley-Corn,*

Ways, *First*, By the Bite; Is to break the Malt Corn across between the Teeth, in the middle of it or at both Ends, and if it tasteth mellow and sweet, has a round body, breaks soft, is full of flower all its length, smells well and has a thin skin, then it is good; *Secondly*, By Water; Is to take a Glass near full, and put in some Malt, and if it swims, it is right, but if any sinks to the bottom, then it is not true Malt, but steely and retains somewhat of its Barley nature; yet I must own this is not an infallible Rule, because if a Corn of Malt is crack'd, split or broke, it will then take the water and sink, but there may an allowance be given for such incidents, and still room enough to make a judgment. *Thirdly*, Malt that is truly made will not be hard and steely, but of so mellow a Nature, that if forced against a dry Board, will mark and cast a white Colour almost like Chalk. *Fourthly*, Malt that is not rightly made will be part of it of a hard Barley nature, and weigh heavier than that which is true Malt.

CHAP.