

which are perfectly well wrought and well polisht. Those, that have tried them, find them very good, but they are only, the one of 10, the other of 8. foot. A good Astronomer told me, that they would bear a great *Aperture* in respect of their length.

I do not well know, what to say to yours concerning M. *Hewelius*. Mean while, the interest of truth, and the obliging manner, he has treated me with, engage me to answer him, in the matter of the *Comets*: I am perswaded, I shall convince him; but since he hath taken the *Illustrious Royal Society* for Judge, I accept that with all my heart.

*A Relation
Of the loss of the Way to prepare the Bononian Stone
for shining.*

Though several Persons have pretended to know the Art of preparing and calcining the *Bononian Stone*, for keeping a while the Light once imbibed; yet there hath been indeed but one, who had the true secret of performing it. This was an *Ecclesiastick*, who is now dead, without having left that skill of his to any one, as Letters from *Italy* and *France*, some while since, did inform. There is no substance, in Nature, known to us, that hath the effect of this Stone; so that (to the shame of the present Age) this *Phenomenon* is not like to be found any where, but in Books, except some happy *Genius* light upon the same or the like skill*.

[* It is hoped notwithstanding (which also a late Letter from abroad does hint) that some or other of the *Italian Virtuosi* at *Florence* have secured this Secret.]

*A Description
Of a Swedish Stone, which affords Sulphur, Vitriol,
Allum, and Minium.*

This was communicated to the *R. Society* by Sir *Gilbert Talbôt* Knight, a Worthy Member of that Body, as he had received it in *Denmark*, being his Majesties Extraordinary Envoy there; as follows,

THere is a Stone in *Sweden* of a Yellow Colour, intermixed with streaks of white (as if composed of Gold and Silver) and heavy, withal. It is found in firm Rocks, and runs in Veins, upon