BOOK the Fifth, of the Second Volume.

Of STONES.

The PREFACE.

I *mean by the Word* Stone, *a ſolid and hard Body that will not melt in the Fire, or be extended under the Hammer, form'd in the Earth by Courſe of Time, being a Kind of* Mineral. *I ſhall divide* Stones, *the Subject of this Book, into two Claſſes; to wit, into precious and common Stones. By precious Stones I underſtand thoſe that are dear, either becauſe that they are ſcarce, or that they come from far diſtant Parts, and ſuch as are very hard, ſmall, and ſparkling. And by the Common, I mean ſuch as are of little Value: I ſhall begin with the* Hyacinth, *or* Jacinth, *as being the Fineſt of all thoſe we deal in, and of which we make the moſt Uſe. And by the Way, the* Reader *may be pleas'd to take Notice, That I ſhall only ſpeak of ſuch as we deal in, not meddling with the fine* Stones *the* Jewellers *and* Lapidaries *trade in, as knowing little or nothing of them.*

1. *Of the* Hyacinth, *or* Jacinth.

Pomet. THE *Hyacinth* that is us'd in Medicine is a Stone of which there are three Kinds, to wit, the *ſoft milky Hyacinth*, which is a little Stone of the Size and Figure of a moderate Grain of Salt, very plyable, and of the Colour of Milk, from whence it derives its Name. The Second is a reddiſh Stone without, and within cut naturally like a Diamond Point, that is found very frequently in *Poland*, *Bohemia*, *Sileſia* and *Italy*: In this ſame Stone or *Jacinth*, you will often meet with White mix'd with red, or yellow ſometimes with other Colours; but as theſe different Sorts are not us'd by any but Apothecaries and Huckſters, who chiefly conſider the Cheapneſs, or don't know 'em from others, they ought to be entirely rejected, being nothing elſe but a Sort of Sand; as alſo another Sort of falſe *Hyacinths*, that are little Stones about the Bigneſs of a Pin's Head, of a ſhining

ſhining Red, that are found very commonly in ſeveral Parts of *France*, but chiefly in *Auvergne*, which are what we call *Jargons*, or *falſe Hyacinths*: Wherefore thoſe that wou'd have the *Jacinth* for the Confection that bears its Name, and is after deſcrib'd, muſt uſe no other than the *milky Hyacinth*, as being the true Oriental, and fit for medicinal Uſe, it requiring no other Preparation than to be ground to an Impalpable Powder.

Of the Confection *of* Hyacinth.

The *Confection* of *Hyacinth* is a liquid and cordial Electuary made up of *Hyacinth*, red Coral, Bole from the *Levant*, ſeal'd Earth, of each four Ounces and half; Grains of *Kermes*, Dittany of *Crete*, *Tormentil* Root, Citron Seed, Saffron, Myrrh, Provins Roſes, the three Sanders, the Bone of a Stag's Heart, Shavings of Hartſhorn and Ivory, Sorrel and Purſlain Seed, of each ten Drams and two Scruples; of Saphire, Emerald Topaz, Fine Pearl, Raw Silk, Gold and Silver Leaf, of each five Drams and a Scruple; Musk and Ambergriſe, of each two Scruples; powder all the Druggs, and grind the Stones on a Porphyry, then make 'em into an Electuary with Syrup of Lemons. Thoſe who deſire to know further of it let 'em conſult Monſieurs *Charas* or *Bauderon*'s Diſpenſatories. The Confection of *Hyacinth* ought to be of a good Conſiſtence, freſh and faithfully prepar'd of a reddiſh Colour upon the Yellow: All thoſe who prepare this Medicine ought not to put in Musk and Ambergriſe, except by the Direction of the Phyſician; becauſe the greateſt Part that is us'd is by the Women, and that is very improper for the Sex, eſpecially in any hyſterical Caſe. This Confection made as it ought, is much preſcrib'd becauſe of its good Qualities in fortifying the Heart, reſiſting of Poiſon, *&c.* and it is of the ſame Nature with Confection of *Alkermes*, being much us'd in the *Lionnois*, *Provence* and *Languedoc*, where you meet with few People without a Pot of this *Confection*, or of *Alkermes* or *Treacle* about them, of which they take a ſmall Quantity every Morning. The Dearneſs of this Medicine, and the Demand for it, is the Reaſon that you have a thouſand Sophiſticators of it, who do it ſo groſly and ſcandalouſly, that they afford you no better than Honey, Bole, Myrrh, and ſome Leaf Copper for this Confection, and ſometimes they allow you a little Baſtard Saffron; therefore the beſt Way is never to meddle with this except you have it from an honeſt and reputable Dealer.

Hyacinthus, ſive Lapis Hyacinthinus: The *Jacinth* is a precious Stone, of which there a great many Sorts that differ in Size and Colour; for ſome are ſmall as a Grain of Salt, of a white Colour, and this Kind is call'd the *ſoft milky Hyacinth*, which is the oriental, others are as big as Peas, very hard, of a red Colour, enclining to the Yellow, bright and reſplendent. The Oriental are to be prefer'd to thoſe of *Sileſia* and *Bohemia*, which are known by their Bigneſs, their Beauty, and their Hardneſs; for the Oriental exceed not the Size of a Pea, and are finer and more Brillant than the *European* Kind. There are others much about the ſame Size, of a yellowiſh Colour, almoſt like Amber; ſome are white partaking of Red or Yellow, and ſeveral other Colours; others are ſmall as Pins-Heads, of a bright Red: This laſt Kind is found in ſeveral Parts of *France*, and particularly in *Auvergne*, all the Sorts are very cordial and reſtorative: Doſe half a Scruple. *Lemery.*

2. *Of the* Topaz Stone.

THE *Topazes* that are us'd in Phyſick are Stones of different Magnitude, very heavy and tranſparent, altogether reſembling the *Muſcovy* Glaſs found in the Plaiſter of *Mont Martre*: This Stone is found in the *Eaſt* and *Weſt Indies*, *Bohemia*, and *Germany*. The *Topaz* needs no other Preparation for Medicine than to be ground with Roſe-Water on a Marble like *Hyacinth* and other precious Stones. *Pomet.*

The true *Topaz* of the Ancients, which was afterwards call'd a *Chryſolite*, is a tranſparent Gem of a diluted green Colour, that ſeems to have ſome Yellowneſs, or a Gold Colour in it, very glorious; ſome will not have it to be properly the *Topaz*, but rather the *Chryſolite*, or Mother of the *Emerald*: It is reported to be good againſt *Hemorrhages*, and all Manner of Fluxes of Blood; as likewiſe

wise to stop Bleeding: This Gem is so hard that the File cannot touch it. It has been a Stone of great Esteem and Value, not only for its own Glory and Brightness, but for its sacred Use recorded in Scripture: It is sometimes counterfeited with double Crystals or diaphanous Stones, with a proper green Foil interpos'd, and being thus set in Inclosures, with a like Foil underneath, the Cheat will be hard to discover.

Topazius, Chrysolithus, Chrysopatius, the *Topaz* is a transparent precious Stone, of a greenish Cast, mix'd with a little Yellow, shooting forth golden Rays: There are two Sorts of it, the Oriental and Occidental; the first Sort is harder, finer, and more valued: We have 'em brought from *Arabia*, *Æthiopia*, and about the *Red Sea*; it's said they grow among the Alabaster, and some pretend 'em to be the Mother of the *Emerald*, because these two Stones are something like one another in their Colour. The second Sort are found in *Bohemia*, and are larger than the Eastern Kind, but not so beautiful. *Lemery.*

3. *Of* Emeralds.

Pomet. THE *Emerald* is a greenish Stone that is found in different Parts of the World; as *Ethiopia*, *Egypt*, *Persia*, and both the *Indies*. The highest priz'd, or most valued *Emeralds*, are those call'd the *Prime Emeralds*, in that they are commonly pure and neat, that is to say, of a fine beautiful Green, inclining to the Blue, without Rock or Marble. There is some Grounds or Appearance that *Emeralds* are found in Iron Mines, because I have seen where the Iron has stuck to them. It is by some affirm'd that the *Emerald* takes its green Colour in the Mine, according to the Degree of its Perfections, as Fruits ripen upon the Trees, which I cannot confirm, having never seen the Truth of it.

Some Authors have made twelve Kinds of *Emeralds*, as the *Scythian*, the *Bactryan*, *Ægyptian*, *Cyprian*, *Attick*, *Ethiopick*, *Medick*, *Calcedonian*, *Samian*, *Sicilian*, *Laconick*, and *Cyprian*, or *Chalco-smaragdus*, to which of late has been added a Thirteenth, call'd the *Smaragdites*, or *Bastard Emerald*. This Stone has been of great Esteem, not only for its Glory, but the Use it was apply'd to, being set in the Breast-Plate of Judgment.

The *Smaragdo-Prasinus*, *Smaragdites*, or *Bastard Emerald*, is a transparent green Gem of a mixt Beauty, between a *Prasinus* and an *Emerald*; being compar'd with the *Prasinus*, it has the Greenness of Grass, without Yellowness; but being compar'd with the *Emerald*, it has a yellowish Greenness, which is not in the *Emerald*; it is seldom perfectly transparent because of some Clouds in it, and is of two Kinds; first, the *Bohemian*, which is almost transparent; and, 2dly, the *American*, which is but half transparent: This Stone is said to be diuretick, expels Gravel, hinders the Breeding of the Stone, and eases Pains of the Kidnies and the Gout.

Smaragdus, *Prasinus*, or the *Emerald*, is a fine, green, precious Stone that is diaphanous, shining, resplendent, but moderately hard; there are two Kinds, one oriental, and the other occidental. The first Sort is harder, finer, and more esteem'd; it represents by its agreeable Colour and Pleasantness the Verdure of the Field, and fills the Eye with a sudden glaring Light; it is brought from the *East Indies*. The second Sort may be distinguish'd into two Kinds, *Peruvian* and *European*; the *Peruvian* shews a very fine, pleasant, green Colour, but does not shoot its Rays like the Oriental, and is sometimes fill'd with little greenish Clouds; they are plentiful in *Peru*, and pretty large: The *European* Sort is not so hard or resplendent, but the least valued of all; they are found in *Cyprus*, *Great Britain*, and several other Places: The Western are generally much larger than those of the East, for they are sometimes met with as big as the Palm of a Man's Hand: Both Kinds are proper to stop the Flux of the Belly and Hemorrhages, to sweeten the too acrid Humours, being finely powder'd and taken inwardly: The Dose from six Grains to half a Dram. *Lemery.*

4. *Of* Saphirs.

WE sell two Sorts of *Saphirs*, to wit, the reddish and the blackish; the *Saphirs* are little Stones of the *Pomet.*

Size of a Pin's Head, extreamly hard, and therefore difficult to bruise or pound. The reddish, which are usually of the Colour of Wine, ought to be imploy'd for physical Uses; for as to the blackish *Saphirs* they are rather like Rust of Iron than a precious Stone, and turn the Confection of *Hyacinth* black when added thereto. Some substitute in the Room of the red Oriental *Saphirs*, those little Stones, very common in *Holland*, that we call *Vermeil*, or small *Granats*, which beware of, tho' it is not difficult to distinguish 'em, because the true *Saphirs* are of a very fine, clear, transparent Red, which are contrary to the *Granats*, that are of a very deep Red, and very solid.

Saphirus vel Sapphirus, or the *Lemery. Saphir*, is a fine, precious, brilliant, diaphanous, resplendent Stone, of which there are two Sorts, one call'd the Male, the other the Female: The Males are of a pale Blue, or a Water of the Diamond Lustre; these last are call'd White or Water *Saphirs*, they are less enquired after than the Blue: The Female *Saphirs* are of a deep Blue, these are more valuable, and especially such as come from the *East-Indies*; as *Calecut*, *Pegu*, *Bisnager* and *Zeilan*; they are found likewise in several Parts of the *Western* World, as on the Borders of *Bohemia* and *Silesia*, but they are neither so perfect nor fine as the Oriental, but have their Lustre defac'd or sunk by the Fire.

They use in Physick the Fragments or Pieces which the Lapidaries cut off from the *Saphirs*, which are much about the Size of large Pins-Heads, reddish or blackish, but the Red are prefer'd because the Black are full of Iron Stone, by which we may perceive they have some Analogy to the Load-Stone, for they will be attracted like Iron: There are a great many Virtues attributed to the *Saphirs* which they have not; as the fortifying the Heart and other noble Parts, purifying the Blood, resisting of Poyson; their true Properties are to stop Fluxes, sweeten the Blood, and dry up Ulcers of the Eyes.

5. *Of the* Ruby.

Pomet. THE *Rubies* are likewise little reddish Stones that are brought us from the *East-Indies*, and are of very little Use in Physick, for which Reason I shall say nothing of them, nor of a great many others which we might sell had they attain'd to their Perfection, the Names of which are subjoyn'd, referring the Reader to a Book entitled, *The Perfect or Compleat JEWELLER*, or, *The History of Precious Stones*; compos'd by *Anselmus Boetius de Boot*, Physician to the Emperor *Rodolph* the Second; or to the *Indian* Mercury, made by *Rosnel*, who has made a very large Treatise thereof. The precious Stones we have, besides those mention'd before, are the *Diamonds* of *Alenson*, the *Amethysts* of *Auvergne* and *Cartagena*, the *Girasole*, the *Peridot*, the *Agats*, the *Berils*, the *Sardius*, the *Coralines*, the *Granats*, the *Malaquits*, and several Sorts of Marble, *Florence* Stones, *&c.* And as I have seen the vast Difference betwixt the Stones that we sell, and the fine Stones the Lapidaries use, I advise all those that wou'd make the *Confection* of *Hyacinth*, to take rather the Chippings of the fine Stones, than fancy he can buy better at the Druggists: Besides, I am of Opinion with those who allow no other Virtue in all the precious Stones, than to absorb Acids.

Rubinus, *Carbunculus*, *Pyropus*, *Anthrax*, the *Ruby* or *Carbuncle* is a fine, diaphanous, precious Stone that is very hard, and resists the File; it is resplendent, and of a Colour as red as Blood, mix'd with a little Tincture of blue: There are several Kinds of it, but the finest, hardest, and most valuable, is that from *Zeilan* in the *Indies*: Stones that are of a Flesh Colour, they are whitish at first, and grow reddish as they approach to Perfection: There are some likewise in *Gambaya* and *Bisnaga*, but these are not so fine. *Lemery.*

There is assign'd to the *Ruby* the Virtue of resisting Poyson, strengthening the Vitals, driving away Melancholy, restoring of lost Strength; but we know by Experience it has no other Quality than that of an Alcali Powder, that sweetens the Sharpness of the Humours, and breaks their Points, and consequently stops the Flux of the Belly: Dose from half a Scruple to two Scruples; 'tis call'd *Rubinus* from its red Colour, and *Carbunculus* from its Reflexion, looking like a red-hot Coal of Fire.

6. *Of*

6. *Of* Lapis Lazuli, *or the* Azure Stone.

Pomet. THE *Azure Stone*, which is most commonly call'd *Lapis Lazuli*, and by some *Lapis Cyaneus*, and *Lapis Stellatus*, is a heavy Stone of a Sky Blue, sometimes full of Rock Stone, and most frequently streak'd with Veins of Copper, which the Ancients, and some Moderns, believ'd to be Gold: The greatest Part of the Stone that we have comes from *Persia* and the *East-Indies*; and some affirm that it is usually found in Gold Mines, and that it is the *Marchasite* of that Metal: However it is certain that this Stone is got out if a Quarry as other Stones are here, which is the Reason we have it of all Sizes; the *Lapis Lazuli* to be perfect and fit for Making the *Ultra-marine*, which is the chief Use it is put to, except the fine Works made of it; ought to be heavy, of a deep Blue, like fine Indigo, with as few Copper or Sulphureous Veins as possible, and take Care it be not rub'd with Oil Olive, in order to make it appear of a deeper Blue; but the Cheat is not hard to discover, because it ought to be of as fine a Blue within as without; likewise refuse such as is full of Stones, and the pretended Veins of Gold; so that when it is burnt to make *Ultra-marine* it will stink extreamly, having a sulphureous Smell, which shows that it proceeds from Copper, and not from Gold.

There is an Error some People are guilty of in believing, as some have pretended, that this Stone, when fine, will encrease its Weight in the Fire: This is certain, that the finer this Stone is it will lose the less in the Fire; and that there is some of it that loses so little that 'tis not worth speaking of; but let it be never so good it will always lose something; so far is it from being encreas'd in Weight: You ought to put the Stone into the Fire to see if it be good, for if so it will not change its Colour for being heated hot. The Choice of this Stone is quite otherwise than has been described by others, who say that that which is full of yellowish or golden Veins ought to be most valued, which I maintain to be false, since the more it is so, the less it is esteem'd, especially by those who know what Use they design it for namely, to make *Ultra-marine*, wherein you must beware of the greenish Stone, very common in *France*, which is found about *Toulon*, or that it be not a counterfeit Stone, made up of Tin and *Saphre*, as has been observ'd. This Stone is of some small Use in Medicine, because it is put into several galenical Compositions, as Confection of *Alkermes*, &c. There are Authors who attribute great Virtues to this Stone, and amongst others Monsieur *Demeuve*, to whom the Reader may have Recourse; and there are several others who say that *Lapis Lazuli*, and the *Armenian Stone*, are almost alike, which will be found to be false, as you will see in the next Chapter.

Lapis Lazuli, *Lapis Cyaneus*, *Lapis Cæruleus*, or the *Azure Stone*, is of different Sizes and Figures, being opaque, heavy, and of a blue Colour, intermix'd with Streaks of Gold and Copper; it is found in Quarries in the *East-Indies*, and in *Persia*, and some say in the Gold Mines; its Use is chiefly to make *Ultra-marine* of, for which Purpose chuse the cleanest, weightiest, of the highest Colour, and best Blue; it contains a great deal of Sulphur and Salt. To make *Ultra-marine*, they calcine this Stone, and grind it fine on a *Porphyry*, and mix it up in a Paste made of fat Pitch, Wax, and Oil; then they wash this Paste well to separate the blue Part which precipitates to the Bottom in a very beautiful Powder; they pour off the Water leasurely, and dry this Powder, which is for the Painters Use. *Lapis Lazuli* prepar'd purges melancholy Humours, fortifies the Heart, and is us'd in the Confection of *Alkermes*: The Dose from half a Scruple to a Dram. There is found near *Toulon* in *France*, *Germany*, and several other Parts of *Europe*, a false or bastard *Lapis Lazuli*, that is greenish and thicker, which is imploy'd for common Uses. *Lemery.*

Of Ultra-marine.

Ultra-marine is, properly speaking, a *Precipitate* made from *Lapis Lazuli*; [as you have it describ'd by *Lemery* above] and some say it took its Name of *Ultra-marine*, from being made be- *Pomet.*

beyond the Seas, the first of the Kind coming from *Cyprus*; but others will have it that the Name was given it, because this Blue is much more beautiful than that of the Sea. A Friend of mine assur'd me that the first *Ultra-marine* was made in *England* by one of the *East-India* Company there. You ought to chuse that which is of the highest Colour, well ground, which is known by chewing of it betwixt the Teeth, and if it is gritty it is a Sign that it is not well ground: and to discover if it is genuine and not sophisticated; heat a little of it red-hot in a Crucible; if its Colour is not chang'd 'tis the true; for if it is adulterated there will be black Spots in it: Its Use is for Painting in Oil and Miniature. The Manner of preparing *Ultra-marine* is describ'd in so many Books, I thought it needless to repeat it here; I shall only say, that those who prepare it make it into four Sorts, which proceeds from nothing else but the different Washings of the Powder, whereof the First is abundantly more beautiful than the Last.

7. *Of the* Armenian Stone.

Pomet. THis is a little Stone of the Size of a Bullet, of a greenish Blue without and within, adorn'd with small white glistering Sparks, rising beyond its Surface, like Spar or small Diamond Sparks. They attribute great Virtues to this Stone, as that it is good to cure the *Falling Sickness*, *Melancholy*, and the like. This Stone is ground and wash'd to free it from the Spar and little Sparkles, as it were Sweepings of Gold, tho' 'tis only Sand, and afterwards dry'd and brought to us by the Name of *Powder Green*, or *Verditer*, which is us'd by the Painters; but more especially by those, who to encrease their *Mountain Green*, mix equal Parts of both together to make this come cheaper, that so they may get more Money by it; for which Reason never buy any *Mountain Green* but of Persons you can trust, and such as has the Marks describ'd, when treating of it; and besides when a little of it put upon Paper stains it not, but is like Sand, which is a Sign 'tis not mix'd with *Verditer*. We sell several Sorts of *Verditers* which have no other Difference but according to the Preparation given them; the finest Sort ought to be very dry, fine, and of a high Colour.

Armenus Lapis, seu Lapis Armenis, seu Melochites, the *Armenian Lemery.* Stone is of different Shapes and Sizes, but most commonly round, uneven, rough, as big as a Nut, of a Mixture of Colours, Blue, Green, white, *&c.* It is brought from *Armenia*, whence it derives its Name; but at present it is also found in *Germany*, as in the County of *Tyrol*; it differs from *Lapis Lazuli*, in that it is not so blue, but fuller of a drossy Stone and other Impurities; and that this is taken from the Silver Mines, whereas the other is found in the Gold Mines. Chuse that which is of the deepest Colour. They grind this Stone and wash it, to separate the finer Parts, or the Sand which shines like Spangles of Gold; and this, when dry'd, they sell by the Name of *Verditer*, for the Painters Use. This *Armenian Stone*, prepar'd, is detersive, and desiccative or drying, being outwardly apply'd, and inwardly purges melancholy Humours; it is good for the Epilepsie, *&c.* The Dose from a Scruple to a Dram.

8. *Of* Smalt *or* Powder Blue.

POwder Blue is either a Composition, or a Stone pulverized, *Pomet.* which we have from *England* and *Roüen*, whither it is brought by the *Swedes*, *Hamburghers* and *Danes*: The greatest Part of this *Smalt* comes from *Dantzick* in *Poland*, as well as several other Colours, with Zink and Tin-glass; but this being a Trade known but to few People, therefore those who deal in these Commodities directly from *Dantzick*, sell cheaper than those who trade from *Holland*, *England*, or *Roüen*. After all the diligent Enquiries I cou'd make, I found it impossible to find out what this *Powder Blue* was, some assuring me that it was a Composition made at *Roüen*; but as those who made it kept it as a Secret, I never cou'd discover of what it was; it ought to be very fine, of a deep Colour, and as dry and like to *Ultra-marine* as possible; its Use is for the Painters.

9. Of

9. *Of the* Jasper.

Pomet. THere being various Sorts of *Jaspers*, such as the Green, the Purple, Cérulean, Aurora, or Crystal like: I shall speak only of that which is sold in the Shops, which is the *Green Jasper*; and if it had not been of some small Use in Medicine, I shou'd not have spoke of it. Being a very precious Commodity, it is very liable to be counterfeited in Glass: Chuse such as are of a fine deep Green, smooth and shining, full of red Spots, as if they were little Drops of Blood, and which can take no Impression from the Point of a Needle drawn upon it, which is a Sign that it is truly Oriental. Some People affirm that the *Green Jasper* is very proper to cure the *Epilepsy*, and that it is a good Cordial; it is prepar'd as the *Hyacinth* and other precious Stones.

Lemery. *Jaspis*, the *Jasper*, is a fine, hard, smooth, resplendent, precious Stone, which differs little from the *Agate*, only that is not so hard and pure: There are a great many Kinds of it, but the Oriental is the best. It ought to be very hard, of a deep Green spotted with Red, and it is of some Use in Physick, ground fine upon a Porphyry: The prepar'd Powder is astringent, proper to stop Blood and the Scour of the Guts. Great Virtues are assign'd it in the Epilepsy, also to strengthen the Stomach, and bring away the Stone in the Kidnies, *&c.*

10. *Of the* Jade Stone.

Pomet. THE *Jade* is a greenish Stone, inclinable to grey, extreamly hard and very rare: This Stone is little us'd in Physick, but pretty much in several Sorts of Works that are very valuable, it being very difficult to cut. The *Turks* and *Poles* use a great deal of *Jade* to make Handles for their Knives, Sabres, Swords, and other Things, which they adorn with Gold; the Oriental is the finesh *Jade*.

Lemery. *Jade* is a very hard Stone, of a greenish grey Colour; the finest comes from the *East-Indies*. The *Turks* and *Poles* make several Uses of them, and it is difficult to work because of its excessive Hardness. Some pretend, that apply'd to the Region of the Kidnies, they are proper to bring away Stone and Gravel, but I can give no credit to such Remedies.

11. *Of the* Nephritick Stone.

Pomet. THE *Nephritick Stone* is a greyish Stone, with a little Mixture of Blue in it, so that it is usually of a bluish grey Colour, being fat and oily like *Venetian Talck*. This Stone is much valued by certain Persons for the Cure of the Gravel, which makes it so scarce, and so much enquired after, because of its Virtues, which it performs by hanging about the Thigh of those who are troubled with the Stone or Gravel in the Kidnies, from whence it is call'd the *Nephritick Stone*: The Dearness and Rarity of this Stone is the Reason why some have substituted in its stead a Kind of green Marble, surnam'd *Malaquitte*, and cut and carve it like a Bird's Head, because the Ancients believ'd that the true *Nephritick Stone* resembled a Bird's Head, or the Beak of a *Perroquet*. The true *Nephritick Stone* comes from *New-Spain*; and whoever wou'd know further of it may read Mr. *Worms*, who has writ a large Description of it, too long to be inserted here.

Lemery. *Lapis Nephriticus*, or the *Nephritick Stone*, is of different Sizes, pretty hard, opaque, of a bluish Grey or Ash-colour, but sometimes mix'd with white, yellow, or black, and is not perfectly smooth, because it is unctuous like *Talck*; it is found in *New-Spain*, sometimes with the *Jasper*, and sometimes alone: Some reckon it among the Kinds of *Jaspers*, making no great Difference, but only that this is the harder: For the most Part they are found like Whet-Stones in the Fields in great Lumps, so big, that a Cup may be made of them. *Carolina* affords pretty large ones, of about eight Inches long, three broad,

broad, and two thick, of an ash-colour'd Green: They are likewise gather'd in *Bohemia*, and several Parts of *Spain*, but those are not so much esteem'd as what comes from *America*.

This Stone has the Property to ease the Stone Colick, to break the Stone in the Reins, and expell Gravel by Urine, being hung about the Neck, Thigh, or Arm: Some prescribe it to be taken inwardly, from four to fifteen Grains. Of latter Years there is brought into Use for the same Diseases, a brown, smooth, shining Stone, which they call from its great Virtues, the *Divine Stone*; this breaks the Stone in the Kidnies, and forces it away by Urine; they tye it in their Cloaths about the Back.

12. Of Venetian Talck.

Pomet. THE *Venetian Talck* is a Kind of greenish Stone in Scales or Flakes, which tho' it be fatty, is nevertheless very dry and heavy; the finest is that which is found in the Quarries, situated near *Venice*, from whence it is call'd *Venetian Talck*. It is found also plentifully in *Germany*, *England*, and about the *Alps*. The best *Talck* is that which is in large, white, greenish, shining Stones, that being broken sparkle like Silver Spangles, and which being in small Leaves are white, clear, and transparent; but take Care that they be equally fine throughout; for that which is in great Stones is very subject to be bad, by Reason of a great many yellow or reddish Veins that are found within, accompanied with a Kind of Earth that spoils the Sale of it; there are some of them also of a greenish White, instead of a reddish Yellow; so that we had better take that which is in moderate Pieces, which we may know at Sight.

Talck is much in Regard with the Ladies of Quality, who use it for a Cosmetick; and as it is exceeding difficult to reduce it into Powder, yea, or to calcine it, the Way is now to grate it with a Fish-skin, and then to searce it, so using it as Occasion shall require. Hence it is that almost none but such Talck, as is in moderate Pieces of a Size fit to be held in the Hand, is now call'd for.

Venetian Talck, while it is whole, is of a greenish Colour; but being broken, or divided into thin Scales, it is known from *English Talck* by its Inclination to Friability, its green Colour and Fixedness in the Fire: For some who have kept it forty or fifty Days in a Glass-House Fire, have taken it out at the End of the Time, and found no Alteration in it, neither in Respect of *Resolution*, *Colour*, or *Weight*, but it has come out absolutely the same Thing as it went in. This *Talck* therefore being of so fixed a Nature, our Labour now must be to show how to open its Body in order to make those Preparations of it, which we desire, at least the *noble White*, which Ladies, with so much Curiosity and Charges, seek after and pursue. It is true, there are a great many Men that boast what Preparations and Secrets they have of *Talck*; but this we certainly know, that there is no liquid Substance of it, yet invented or known, made out of the simple Thing itself; but such as is compounded by the Mixture of such Salts as are able to penetrate the Stone; so invincible is the Fixedness of the *True Venetian Talck*; therefore to attempt to calcine it, with Addition of some piercing Salt, is an unpardonable Vanity; but by the Help of some Salts, and acid Spirit, I confess a good Cosmetick may be made of it, to change and whiten the Skin.

The Ancients, and especially the *Arabians*, were sometimes of Opinion, that from *Talck* might be drawn a Remedy, of such Efficacy as ever to preserve the Body in good Case, for which Reason they gave it the Name of *Talck*, as much as to say, an equal Disposition of Body, according to which it is in perfect Health; and from hence, undoubtedly, hath proceeded the Vulgar Error concerning an Oil of *Talck*, which is so much commended, and to which such extraordinary Vertues are attributed; and so prevalent hath this Error been, and still is at this Day, that whoever could find the Secret of getting an Oil from *Talck*, without the Addition of Salts or Acids, might be sure to sell it for its Weight in Gold; yea, I may venture to say, twenty times more. But since as I believe the high Commendations, and wonderful Vertues usually ascrib'd

to

to it, proceed upon Supposition it cou'd be had, which is impossible, therefore I shall say no more of it, but that some Persons who flatter themselves with a Belief that they have the Secret of Making it, affirm that it is incomparably good for Whitening the Skin, Smoothing the Face, and in a Word to make old People renew their Youth.

If *Venice Talck* be heated red hot, and put into an Iron Mortar almost as hot, it may be beaten in a small Time to a most fine impalpable Powder, which being sears'd may be mix'd with *Unguents* and *Pomatum*, and us'd as other *Cosmeticks* of the like Kind. This *Talck*, thus pulveriz'd, may be strew'd among shell Snails, and left in a glaz'd Pipkin 'till they have suckt it all up; then having bruised them with all their Shells, put the Mixture into a Glass Cucurbit, cover'd with its Head; distill the whole Mass, and you will have a *Cosmetick* Water good to cleanse and beautify the Skin with.

We have another Sort of *Talck* brought us from *Muscovy* and *Persia*, which they call Red or Leaf *Talck*, because it is of a reddish Colour, and easie to be divided into Leaves as thin as you please. This Red or Leaf *Talck* is only used, so far as I know, by the Monks and Nuns, who put it, instead of Glass, before their Pictures and Agnus's, but don't, as some Authors affirm, imploy to this Purpose the *Venetian Talck*. This then, as I have said, being the only Use of the Leaf *Talck*, we ought not to meddle with any, but what is in large Leaves, and when split or divided into very thin Pieces, is of a Crystalline Clearness and Transparency. There is not almost a more curious Commodity in the World than Leaf *Talck* with the required Qualifications, for as much as it is very rare to be found. 'Tis a Thing so very hard to understand, that I would not advise any one to buy any, but what is approv'd by those who work in it: That which, being thick, is blackish, and may be divided into Leaves extremely thin, is judged to be the best.

Lemery. *Talcum*, or *Talck*, is a Kind of Stone, or a mineral Matter, that is fine, white, smooth, soft to the Touch, shining and transparent, dividing into Leaves or Scales that will not burn; some call it *Stella Terræ*, because it shines like a Star: There are two Kinds of it; one call'd *Venetian Talck*, and the other *Muscovy Talck*. The *Venetian* Sort is soft, scaly, heavy, and appears greasy to the Touch, tho' it is dry, of a Silver Colour, tending to green, something transparent: Chuse the finest white shining Pieces, upon the green Cast, that separate into little nice clear Leaves, or Flakes, that shine like Pieces of Silver. When you wou'd reduce this into Powder, rasp it with a Sea-Dog's Skin, or rather calcine it in a Crucible about a Quarter of an Hour; then heat it in an Iron Mortar almost red-hot, and sift it thro' a *Sieve*: It is us'd in Cosmetick *Pomatums*, by the Ladies.

The *Muscovy Talck* is hard, smooth, shining, and soft to the Touch, dividing or breaking into thin Leaves, that are almost as transparent as Glass, and sometimes it is reddish: This comes from the Quarries in *Muscovy* and *Persia*; chuse the finest and clearest; it serves them for *Lanthorns*, as we use Horn; but the *Talck* is more commodious, for it is more *transparent*, and not so subject to burn. *Talck* is difficult to reduce to Ashes, by the Fire, because the Pores of it being small, the Parts of Fire slide thro' without making any Impression. I attempted to calcine both Sorts by a *Burning-Glass*; that of *Venice* was chang'd by the solar Fire into a grosser, yellowish, opaque Matter; and that of *Muscovy* into a light farine, being very fine white Powder.

13. *Of* Brianson Chalk.

THE *Brianson Chalk* is a Kind of Stone, or a mineral Substance, almost like *Venetian Talck*, but harder, and that does not so readily split or separate into Scales; there are two Kinds of it, one white, and the other green, that are found in the *Quarries* or *Pits* near *Brianson*; they serve to take Grease-Spots out of Cloths, and for Taylors to mark or score with; chuse the neatest, smoothest, green and soft.

14. *Of*

14. Of Spalt.

Pomet. SPalt is a scaly bright Stone, very like Parget Stone, except that this is whiter: They find Abundance of these Stones in *Germany*, especially about *Ausburg*; there are some likewise in *England*, but not so good. We sometimes see Fragments of this Stone adhering to and mixt with *Frankincense*, a Sign that it is found in the Places whence it comes; it shou'd be in long brittle Scales that may be easily crumbled to Powder with the Nail of one's Thumb, which can't be done by that of *England*, being more hard. *Spalt* is us'd by several Sorts of Workmen, being good to assist the Founders in Melting of their Metals, which I cannot affirm to be Fact, having never seen it try'd.

Lemery. *Spalt* is a scaly Stone that is bright, and looks like Plaister Stone, or Crystal of *Montmartre*, but it is much whiter: It is met with in *England* and *Germany*. The Founders use it to flux their Metals with; it is detersive and drying, outwardly apply'd.

15. Of the Lapis Judaicus, or Jews-Stone.

Pomet. THE *Jews-Stone* is of different Sizes and Figures; but the most common Size is that of an Olive, adorn'd with little Streaks or hollow Lines, running from one End to the other, and sometimes it is altogether smooth. This Stone is usually Grey, and sometimes of a reddish Grey, and shines like our little Flint Pebbles, of which I believe it to be a Species. These Stones are brought us from different Parts of *Judea*, from whence they take their Name: They are likewise call'd *Syrian* and *Phœnician Stones*. This Stone, tho' it be like a Flint, it is nothing so hard, yet not so easie to break as some Authors have asserted; but being broke it is of a whitish Grey, and shining. Mr. *Charas*, in his Book of Chymistry, at the 821 *Page*, says, that this Stone being calcin'd with Sulphur, from it, with distill'd Vinegar, Spirit of Salt, and Spirit of Honey, may be drawn a salt that is admirable for breaking the Stone; where those who desire to prepare it may be instructed therein.

Lemery. *Lapis Judaicus*, *Lapis Syriacus*, *Phœnicites*, *Tecolithus*, or the *Jews-Stone*, is of various Forms and Bigness, but most usually is shap'd like a small Olive, streak'd all over with Lines that run thro' the Length of it, and are equally distant one from another; some are found smooth without any, and some in a *Cylindrical* Form: The Colour is grey, and sometimes reddish without, and whitish within: It appears to be hard like a Flint, but is soft and may be easily beat to powder; they are distinguish'd into *Male* and *Female*; the Male is that which is large, long, and of a Cylindrical Figure; the Female is that which is of the Shape and Size of a small Olive: They are both indifferently us'd in Physick, being first ground to a fine Powder on a Marble. This Powder is given to stop Fluxes of the Belly, to provoke Urine, and to break the Stone in the Kidnies and Bladder.

16. Of the Lapis Lyncis, or Thunder-Stone.

THE *Belemnites*, falsely call'd the *Lynx Stone*, is a Kind of Flint made in a Pyramidal Form, to which the Ancients gave the Name of *Belemnites*, from its Resemblance to a Dart or Arrow, and others of *Dactylus Ideus*, from its Likeness to a Finger, and because it is found on *Mount Ida*; others say it was call'd *Lapis Lyncis*, because it was believ'd that it was form'd from the Urine of the *Lynx*. This Stone is harder than the *Jews Stone*, notwithstanding they attribute the same Virtues to it: And Mr. *Charas* told me it might be prepar'd after the same Manner, and used for the same Purposes. This Stone being broke is of the Colour of Horn in the Concavity, in which is found a Sort of grey dry Earth, of an insipid Taste, and like to be good for nothing: At the End of the Stone there also appears, as it were, the

Pomet.

Lemery.

the Resemblance of a Sun. Plenty of these Stones are found about *Paris*, in digging and labouring the Ground, especially in sandy and gravelly Soils.

Lemery. *Belemnites, sive Lapis Lyncis, sive Dactylus Ideus*, the *Thunder-stone*, or *Thunder-bolt*, is about the Length and Thickness of a Man's Finger, sometimes more, and sometimes less, round, pointed, or in a pyramidal Form, like an Arrow: They are found of different Colours, sometimes white, and sometimes grey, and sometimes brown, brought usually from *Candia*; but they come likewise from *Germany*. They find the same about *Paris*, in the sandy Grounds, and there are two Sorts of 'em; one that being put upon the Fire will yield a bituminous Smell, and the other none at all. The first is plainly, that which the Ancients call'd *Lyncurius*, and believ'd falsely to be a Kind of *Succinum*, or Amber that was made from the Urine of the *Lynx* coagulated. The Stone being broke they find in its Concavity, that looks of a Horn Colour, a little dry grey Earth, without Smell or Taste. This Stone is us'd to break the Stone in the Kidney, and to expell it by Urine, being taken inwardly: It is also us'd externally to cleanse and dry Wounds; it is ground on a Marble to reduce it to Powder.

17. *Of the* Bolognian Stone.

Pomet. THis is a heavy Stone of a shining Silver Grey, very like in Figure to the *Nephritick Stone*, which is found very commonly about *Bologna* in *Italy*, whence it takes its Name. This Stone is of no other Use than, after Calcination, to make the Phosphorus, of which Mr. *Lemery* treats so largely at the End of his Book of *Chymistry*; and likewise Mr. *Worms*, he having writ a long Discourse of it, whither those who desire to make it may have Recourse: The *Bolognian Stone* is not yet well known amongst us, which is the Cause we sell so little of it. Some call this Stone calcin'd, the *Sun* or *Moon Spunge*, the *illuminated Stone*; Lucifer, *Cassiolanus* his *Stone*, or *Kercher's Phosphorus*.

Lemery. *Lapis Bolonienſis, Chrysolapis*, or the *Bolognian Stone*, is a Stone whereof a *Phosphorus* is made: It is ordinarily of the Bigness of a Walnut, bunch'd, uneven, flattish, and dispos'd in such a Manner, that the Side opposite to the Bunch or Knot, makes a Kind of Cavity; it is heavy, grey, soft, shining in several Parts, Crystalline within, almost like *Talck* of *Montmartre*: It is found in several Parts of *Italy*, but chiefly at the Bottom of *Mount Paterno*, which is a Part of the *Alps*, and distant from the City of *Bologna*, about a League; they are easily discover'd after the Floods of Waters that happen from the great Rains; for then the Earth is wash'd and clean'd that surrounded them, and hinder'd them from being seen: They are distinguish'd from other Stones of the Mountain, by little Sparks that appear on their Surface; and we may see, in the Cabinets of the Curious, some of these that weigh to five Pounds. These large Stones are no otherwise valuable than for their Scarceness, they being more earthy than the small ones, and not so good to make the *Phosphorus* of.

The best *Bolognian Stones* are those which are found cover'd on the Outside with a thin, white, and opaque Crust, but these are very rare; and since we cannot come at them we use the common Sort, which shou'd be chose with the fewest Spots, and that are bright; the worst are those where there appear Veins of Vitriol or Iron; these contain in them much more of Sulphur and Salt.

The *Bolognian Stone* is prepar'd and reduc'd into a *Phosphorus*, by a moderate Calcination, that purifies and exalts the Sulphur more than it was, This Calcination is made in the following Manner: Take seven or eight of these Stones cleans'd on the Outside with a Rasp, or a Knife, and powdering very finely one or two of the most shining of them in a Brass Mortar, throw the others whole, one after another, into clear Water; and having taken 'em out, cover them intirely over with the Powder, by rolling them in it, that they may lick up as much as they can; then put them into a little Furnace or Stove, with a Brass Grate, upon which you must lay them in order, with a Fire under them to calcine;

which when done, let the Fire go out of itself; and when all is cold, take off your calcin'd Stones gently from the *Grate*; separate the Cruſt, which comes from the Powder in which you have roll'd them, and keep the Stones in a Box with Cotton; preſerve likewiſe the Cruſt which is to be reduced into an impalpable Powder.

Theſe calcin'd Stones are the *Phoſphorus*, which being expos'd to the Day in an open Field or Street, are lighted, as it were in an inſtant; after which, if they are carried into a dark Place, they will appear like lighted Coals without any ſenſible Heat, and you may extinguiſh them by little and little; but if you let in the Light they will burn again, and thus they will laſt for two or three Years together, according as they are more or leſs frequently expos'd to the Light; and when theſe Stones have loſt their Virtue they may be reſtored again, by obſerving the ſame Circumſtances as before, but their Brightneſs will be much leſs. The Cruſt reduc'd into Powder is likewiſe finer and more illuminating, when expos'd to the Air, than the Stones; they fill little Bottles of fine Cryſtal with it cloſely ſtopt, which they keep to give Light when they pleaſe, for they are not oblig'd to expoſe it to the Air as they do the Stones, the Cryſtal not giving any Obſtruction to the Light from the Powder.

One muſt not imagine that any of the ſeveral Circumſtances that I have ſhewn for the Calcination of the *Bolognian Stone* are uſeleſs; for they are ſo neceſſary, that if they be not all exactly obſerv'd, the Operation is loſt, and the Stone will give no Light: This Stone acquires, by Calcination, a ſulphureous Smell, like melted *Orpiment*; and when it is boild with Lime and Water, it yields likewiſe a little *Arſenical Salt*.

The Reaſon why it appears light proceeds from the Fire mixing with the Sulphur in its Motion, which raiſes to the Superficies an Infinity of Particles that are ſo ſubtle and delicate as to take upon Light, or the Motion of the Air; but thoſe who deſire to be more fully inform'd in this Matter, may read what I have ſaid in my Treatiſe of Chymiſtry, where I have ſpoke not only of this Kind of *Phoſphorus*, but of ſeveral others; and have likewiſe given you the Figure of a Furnace that is moſt convenient and proper for Calcining this Stone, which is a *Depilatory*; and being powder'd and mix'd with Water to the Conſiſtence of a Paſte, may be apply'd to any Part of the Skin where there is Hair to be taken off: It is call'd *Phoſphorus*, or *Lucifer*, from bringing of Light, and *Chryſolapis*, from caſting a Light of a golden Colour.

18. *Of the* Pumice Stone.

THE *Pumice Stones*, which the *Latins* call *Pumex*, are Stones of various Colours, Shapes and Weight, being white, greyiſh, light, heavy, big, little, round and flat; they are valued more or leſs according as they are demanded; for ſome eſteem the white, others the grey, ſome the light, and ſome the heavy: Notwithſtanding which, I muſt tell you, that the largeſt and lighteſt are moſt ſet by, eſpecially for thoſe who make Parchment, and Stone-Cutters, who conſume Abundance; but the ſmall are ſcarce us'd but by the Pewterers, who reduce them into Powder. As to the flat *Pumice Stones*, they are not us'd but by the *Curriers*; in a Word, the *Pumice Stones* are of ſuch Uſe, that we have ſcarce any Commodity whereof there is a greater Conſumption, there being ſuch Abundance of Workmen that uſe 'em. As to Phyſick, the little Uſe made of it is not worth ſpeaking of, ſave only that after Calcination and Powdering, it makes a Dentrifice for the Cleaning of the Teeth. *Pomet.*

As for the Nature and Conſtitution of this Stone, I have not yet been able to come to the Knowledge thereof; wherefore I ſhall reſt ſatisfied with what ſeveral Authors ſay of it; namely, that it is a Stone thrown out of Mount *Veſuvius*, or Mount *Ætna*, and by the Violence of the Winds carried into the Sea, where it is found ſwimming on the Surface, from whence 'tis taken: Others ſay they are the Stones of Mountains that have been burnt by ſubterranean Fires. However, 'tis certain, that the *Pumice Stone* is a calcin'd Stone, becauſe it is light and porous, or full of Holes, and that it has been in the Sea,

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Sea, or is of a ſalt Nature, for as much as all the *Pumice Stones* we ſell are of a ſalt and brackiſh Taſte, and full as it were of little Needles.

Pumex, or the *Pumice Stone*, is a Stone or Earth that has been calcin'd by ſubterranean Fires, thrown out by Eruptions of the Vulcano's, and by the Force of Winds, carried into the Sea, where it is found floating; there are ſeveral Kinds of it, the large, ſmall, round, flat, light, heavy, grey, white, *&c.* the moſt valued are the biggeſt, lighteſt, and the cleaneſt; they ought to be porous, ſpungy, of a ſalt, ſenny, or marſhy Taſte, full of ſmall Needles. They are found likewiſe in *Sicily*, near Mount *Veſuvius*, from whence they come; and in *Germany*, about *Conflans*, the *Moſelle* and the *Rhine*; they are alkaline, deterſive, drying, us'd for old Ulcers, ſore Eyes, and to clean Teeth. *Lemery.*

19. *Of the* Ætites, *or* Eagle Stone.

Pomet. WHat we call the *Eagle Stones* are certain Stones that are hollow in the Middle, and contain in them a ſtony Nut or Kernel, that makes a Noiſe when we ſhake them; we commonly find but four Sorts of them, that are indifferently call'd in Latin *Lapis Ætites*, but the Kernel *Callimus*. The firſt Sort is brown, oval, uſually the Length of two or three Inches and half a one broad, rough or knotty, and that takes a good Poliſh: The Second is ſomething leſs than the other, and ſeems to partake much of Iron, for it is cover'd with an Ocre like the Iron *Marchaſite*. The third Sort is rough and uneven, as if it was compos'd of Fragments of little ſhining Flints of different Sizes, whereof ſome are brown, and others of a ruſſet Colour, and ſome as it were tranſparent; and all theſe Flints are ſtrongly knit together by a natural Cement, and moſt commonly nothing is found within it but ſome Grains of Sand. The fourth Kind is of an aſh Colour, and contains within it white Clay or Marle; this Sort comes from *Germany*: The Firſt and Second are found in the Bogs of *Cape St. Vincent* in *Portugal*, and in the Mountains near *Trevoux* in the Principality of *Dombes*. It is now no longer believ'd that they are found in the Eagle's Neſt.

It were to be wiſh'd that the Virtues attributed to the *Eagle Stone* were as certain as they are conſiderable; Authors affirming that it facilitates the Birth, if tied to the Thigh of a Woman in Labour, and that it hinders Miſcarriages if tied to the Arm; they believe that reduc'd to Powder, and mix'd in a *Cerate*, it leſſens the *Paroxyſms*, or Fits of the Epilepſy, if apply'd to the Head: 'Tis alſo ſaid, that the Marle or Clay that is found in the Hollow is ſudorifick, and will ſtop the Flux of the Belly.

Ætites Lapis, or the *Eagle Stone*, is a Stone commonly round or oval, of the Bigneſs of a Walnut, and ſometimes of a ſmall Pullet's Egg, of a greyiſh or dark Colour, hollow in the Middle, wherein is contain'd a Sort of ſtony Kernel, that rattles in the Stone when you ſhake it. There are four Kinds, [according to *Pomet*'s Deſcription] all which have great Virtues aſſign'd them, which are nothing but imaginary, Experience not confirming them with any Pretence of Certainty: It is aſtringent, and proper to ſtop Looſeneſſes and Hemorrhages, taken inwardly; the Kernel, which is ſofter than the Stone, is more advantageous for all the ſame Purpoſes: They are call'd *Ætites*, that ſignifies *Aquiline*, or of the *Eagle*, becauſe it was believ'd that the *Eagles* furniſh'd their Neſts with theſe Stones to preſerve their Young. *Lemery.*

20. *Of the* Toad-Stone.

THE *Toad-Stone*, call'd in Latin, *Bufonites*, and *Batrachites* in *Greek*, is a Stone likewiſe found in the Mountains, or the Plains. It has been believ'd that it was bred in the Head of an old *Toad*, whence it was voided by the Mouth of that Creature when put upon red Cloth: But *Boetius*, and thoſe who have made exact Enquiries after it, affirm that this Stone is form'd in the Earth; there are commonly two Sorts, to wit, the round and the long: The round *Toad-Stone* is of the Shape of a ſmall Bonnet, round in Circumference, hol- *Pomet.*

low below, convex above, and very smooth, about half an Inch broad at the Bottom; some of them of a deep grey inclining to blue; and there are others of a reddish Colour; but both Sorts are usually of a much lighter Colour at their Bottom. The long *Toad-Stone* is most frequently of an Inch long, and above four or five Lines thick, hollow'd like a Trough on one Side, and of a convex Figure on the other: Some of those are of a deeper, and some of a lighter Grey, marked with some reddish Spots, and smooth as the round: They set them, especially the round Sort, in Rings; but that is more for Ornament that any Virtue in them, for they are very uncertain in their Effects, especially when they pretend that they allay the Inflammation occasion'd by the Sting of Bees, or other Insects. It is false that it changes its Colour, and sweats when it approaches a Cup wherein there is Poison; tho' *Boetius* and others affirm, that the *Toad-Stone* is found in the Ground, nevertheless I shall not contest or dispute, but that it may be bred in the Head of old *Toads*, tho' it is certain what we now sell comes not from these Animals, but is found in the Earth, as has been observ'd. This Description of the *Toad-Stone*, and that of the Eagle Stone were given me by Mr. *Tournefort*, who is a Person on whom we may depend.

Lemery. *Bufonites*, *Chelonites*, *Batrachites*, is a Kind of precious Stone, whereof there are two Kinds, one round, and the other long. The First is round in its Circumference, hollow on one Side, and convex on the other, in Form of a little Cap or Bonnet, about half an Inch broad at the Basis, very smooth, sometimes grey, brown, black, green, and of various Colours. The second Sort is sometimes more than an Inch long, and above four or five Lines thick, [according to *Pomet*'s Description]. The Size of these Stones are sufficient to undeceive those who believe that they are taken from the Heads of Toads, for they are found in the Mountains, and the Plains where they are produc'd.

Some pretend, that being powder'd and taken inwardly, they are capable of resisting the Plague and other malignant Diseases; that being apply'd to the Stinging or Bitings of venemous Beasts, they draw out the Poison. Some hang them about their Neck for *Quartan Fevers*; but all these Virtues are imaginary, for the *Toad-Stone* has nothing in it but an alcaline Quality proper to absorbe Acids, and to stop Looseness, taken from a Scruple to half a Dram; but it is not in Use.

21. *Of the* Lapis Aminantus.

Pomet. THE *Lapis Amiantus* is a Stone of a greenish Black without and within, pretty heavy, that being broken is almost like *Plumous Alum*, in that it rises in Threads of a whitish Green, or rather of a Horn Colour. This Stone is incombustible, and the Ancients were not much deceiv'd when they said the *Lapis Amiantus* and the *Plumous Alum* were the same Thing: There is notwithstanding some Difference, in that the Plumous Alum rises in long Threads; and this, in short: besides the Extremities of the Plumous Alum, are not of a Colour with those of the *Lapis Amiantus*. This Stone is found in *Turkey*, for all that we sell comes from *Constantinople*; as to the Choice of it, or its Use, I know nothing.

Lemery. *Amiantus*, *sive Albeston*, *sive Albestes Lapis*, is a Stone of a Mineral Substance, or a Kind of Talck that has a near Resemblance to *Plumous Alum*, which several People confound one with the other, believing them to be the same Thing: It is found in two different Forms; for the one is in Filaments or Strings, like those of *Plumous Alum*, but much longer; the other is in a brown or blackish hard Stone, but that will spread under the Hammer. The Ancients spun *Amiantus* and made incombustible Linnen of it, which, amongst other Uses, served them to wrap their dead Bodies in when they burnt them to preserve their Ashes: The *Corps* burnt while the Linnen remain'd entire. This Stone is found in the Quarries near the *Pyrenées*. *Amiantus* is us'd in some Remedies; they believe it resists Poison, cures the Itch, and is detersive.

22. *Of* Cobalt.

Pomet. *Cobalthum*, or *Kobaltum*, is a reddish hard Stone, that is heavy, and in Grains of the Size of our Peas, that stick

ſtick ſeveral of them together upon a Kind of Spar or Marchaſite, like Antimony. This *Cobalt* is uſually found in the Silver Mines, and is a Plague to the Workmen, being a dangerous Poiſon: For if by Chance it fall into the Water, and that the Miners be oblig'd to go into that Water, they are ſure of having their Legs all ulcerated. This *Cobalt* is much different from that of ſome Authors; who have thought it to be *Cadmy*, or *Lapis Calaminaris*; but they are groſſly miſtaken, ſince 'tis eaſie to ſee the Difference. As to its Uſes they are unknown to me, and its Scarceneſs makes that there is little Demand for it.

Cobaltum, ſive Kobaltum, is a Sort of *Marchaſite*, or hard, heavy, reddiſh, granulated Stone, many of which are collected together upon a Mineral Body like *Antimony*. This Stone is compos'd of a Kind of Natural *Cadmy* that is found in the Silver Mines; it is a ſtrong violent Poiſon, yielding a burning Arſenical Salt, a Sulphur and an Earth compos'd of ſome Metallick Parts: It is cauſtick, and being apply'd externally makes an Eſchar upon the Fleſh, and eats off Excreſcencies. *Lemery.*

23. *Of* Oſteocolla, *or the* Bone-Binder.

Pomet. THE *Oſteocolla*, or *Bone-Binder*, is a ſandy Stone, and porous like a Bone, whereof there are two Kinds; the one heavy, gravelly, uneven, and pretty round; the other light and leſs ragged. The *Oſteocolla* is found in ſeveral Parts of *Germany*, where they call it *Benbiru*, but chiefly near *Spires*, *Heidelberg*, and *D'Armſtadt*. They pretend that this Stone has the Power or Faculty of ſetting a broken Bone when taken inwardly, as well as when apply'd to the Fracture.

Beſides all theſe Sorts of Stones already deſcrib'd, we ſell ſeveral other Kinds, ſuch as that of *Aſſo*, the *Serpentine* and Blood Stone, which is a Sort of Marble full of little red Spots, from whence it takes the Name of *Blood Stone*, as alſo becauſe it is pretended that it ſtops Blood: The *Star-Stone*, *Rock-Cryſtal*, *Alabaſter*, and many others, whereof ſeveral Authors have treated at large.

Oſteocolla, Oſtiocolla, Oſteites, Stelechites, Morochtus, Holoſteus, Oſteolithus, Lapis Sabuloſus, Lapis Oſſifragus, or the *Bone-Binding Stone*; is a ſandy hollow Stone, of an aſh or whitiſh Colour, having the Shape of a Bone of different Sizes; ſome are met withal as big as one's Arm; we have two Sorts of them; one round, uneven or rough, ſandy and heavy, the other ſmoother and lighter; it ſticks to the Tongue like *Pumice Stone*: Both Kinds are found in ſeveral Parts of *Germany*, as the *Palatinate*, *Saxony*, and where they grow in ſandy Places: It is us'd to agglutinate and reſtore in a little Time broken Bones, being apply'd upon the Part, and taken inwardly at the ſame Time. Doſe from half a Scruple to two Scruples: It is call'd *Oſteocolla* from *Oſteon* and *Colla*, which is as much as to ſay *Bone-Glue*. *Lemery.*

End of the Fifth BOOK.

BOOK

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