

tion. By degrees this also faded, and the last appearance presented by the comet was that which it offered in its first appearance in August; viz: that of a small round nebula with a bright point in or near the centre."

Plate 14. (Frontispiece.) *Encyclopedia Britannica*.—"Fig. 106 is a representation of the celebrated comet of 1680, taken from Lemonnier's *Histoire Céleste*. It exhibits the nucleus or disk with its surrounding atmosphere. Above is a sort of ring, wider at the summit and narrower towards the sides. A *coma* or beard succeeds the ring; and lastly, an immense train of luminous matter, somewhat less vivid than the nucleus. This luminous train, or tail as it is called, is by far the most singular and striking figure presented by the comets. That of the comet of 1744 was one of the most remarkable. It was divided into six branches all diverging, but curved in the same direction; and between the branches the stars were visible." It is represented in Figure 107, Plate 14.