

terity. In a few days, not to say hours, when I sought our experiment, others offered themselves, that I collected almost two hundred of principal note ; so wonderful is God in all his works. But what wiser and learned men might find out, let all men judge. I knew at Venice R. M. Paulus the Venetian, that was busied in the same study : he was Provincial of the Order of servants, but now a most worthy Advocate, from whom I not onely confess, that I gained something, but I glory in it, because of all the men I ever saw, I never knew any man more learned, or more ingenious, having obtained the whole body of learning ; and is not onely the Splendor and Ornaments of Venice or Italy, but of the whole world. I shall begin from the most known experiments, and pass to higher matters, that it may not repent any man of his great study and accurate diligence therein. By those, the longitude of the world may be found out, that is of no small moment for Saylor's, and wherein the greatest wits have been employed. And to a friend that is at a far distance from us, and fast shut up in prison, we may relate our minds ; which I doubt not may be done by two Mariners Compasses, having the Alphabet writ about them. Upon this depends the principles of perpetual motion, and more admirable things, which I shall here let pass."

Of the magnet, it is said "Pliny from Sotacus makes five kinds of it. The Ethiopian, the Magnesian from Magnesia near Macedonia, as the way lies to the Lake Boëbis, on the right hand ; the third in Ethium of Boëria, the fourth about Alexandria at Troáderum ; the fifth in Magresia of Asia. The first difference is, whether it be male or female, the next in the colour ; for those that are found in Macedonia or Magnesia, are red and black ; but the Boëotian is more red than black : That which is found in Troas is black, and of the female kind, and hath no force therefore. But the worst sort is found in Magnesia, or Asia ; it is white, and attracts not iron, and is like a Pomic stone. It is certain, that the bitter they are the better they are."

"Olaus Magnus reports, that there are mountains of it in the North, and they draw so forcibly, that they have ships made fast to them by great spikes of wood, lest they should draw out the iron nails out of the ships that pass between these rocks of Loadstone. There is an Island between Corsica and Italy, call'd Ilva, commonly Elba, where a Loadstone may be cut forth : but it hath no virtue. It is found in Cantabria in Spain, Bohemia, and many other places."

The following childish experiment is amusing, and appears to have afforded our author and his friends much delight :—

"How to make an Army of Sand to fight before you,—And it is as pleasant as wonderful, that I shewed to my Friends, who beheld on a plain table an army of Sand divided into the right and left wings, fighting, to the wonder of the spectators : and many that were ignorant of the business, thought it was done by the help of the Devil. I pouned a Loadstone into powder, some very small,