

manner. Many have died of it, and few are free from that Distemper. I have procured them all the Helps I could, from the Diet this Country affords in Winter, such as fresh Fish, Partridges, Broths, &c. and the Doctors have used their utmost Skill in vain; for I find nothing will prevent that Distemper from being mortal, but Exercise and stirring abroad.

*Coronæ* and *Parbelia*, commonly called *Halo's*, and *Mock-Suns*, appear frequently about the Sun and Moon here. They are seen once or twice a Week about the Sun, and once or twice a Month about the Moon, for four or five Months in the Winter, several *Coronæ* of different Diameters appearing at the same time.

I have seen five or six parallel *Coronæ* concentric with the Sun several times in the Winter, being for the most part very bright, and always attended with *Parbelia* or *Mock-Suns*. The *Parbelia* are always accompanied with *Coronæ*, if the Weather is clear; and continue for several Days together, from the Sun's Rising to his Setting. These Rings are of various Colours, and about 40 or 50 Degrees in Diameter.

The frequent Appearance of these *Phænomena* in this frozen Clime seems to confirm *Descartes's* Hypothesis, who supposes them to proceed from Ice suspended in the Air.

The *Aurora Borealis* is much oftner seen here than in *England*; seldom a Night passes in the Winter free from their Appearance. They shine with a surprising Brightness, extinguishing all the Stars and Planets, and covering the whole Hemisphere: Their tremulous Motion from all Parts, their Beauty and Lustre, are much the same as in the northern Parts of *Scotland*, *Denmark*, &c.

The dreadful long Winters here may almost be compared to the Polar Parts, where the Absence of the Sun continues for six Months; the Air being perpetually chilled and frozen by the northerly Winds