be rendered as dense as glass, it would then be the same as if there were only one glass to pass through; and it appears to me that infinitely more advantage would result from making use of these telescopes filled with water, than from the common telescopes with smoked glasses.

Whether that would or would not be the fact, this however is certain, that to observe the sun, a telescope quite different is required from those that we make use of for the different planets; and it is also certain, that a particular telescope is necessary for each planet, proportionate to their intensity of light, that is, to the real quantity of light with which they appear to be enlightened. In all telescopes the objectives are required as large, and the ocular glass as strong, as possible, and, at the same time, the distance of the focus proportioned to the intensity of the light of each planet. To do this with the greatest advantage, it is requisite to use only an objective glass so much the larger, and a focus so much the shorter, according to the light of the planet. Why has there not hitherto been made objective glasses of 243 feet diameter? The aberration of the rays, occasioned by the sphericity of the glasses, is the sole cause of the confusion, which is as the

square