while, though it was but faint. The two lateral parhelia, M and N, were seen constantly for three hours together; M was in a languishing state, and died first, after several struggles, but N continued an hour after it at least. Though I did not see the last end of it, yet I am sure it was the only one that accompanied the true sun for a long time, having escaped those clouds and vapours which extinguished the rest. However, it vanished at last, upon the fall of some showers. This phenomenon was observed to last four hours and a half at least; and since it appeared in perfection, when I first saw it, I am persuaded its whole duration might be above five hours.

"The parhelia Q R were situated in a vertical plane, passing through the eye at F, and the sun at G, in which vertical plane the arches H R C and O P R either crossed or touched one another. These parhelia were sometimes brighter, sometimes fainter than the rest, but were not so perfect in their shape and white colour. They varied their magnitude and colour according to the different temperature of the sun's light at G, and the matter which receives it at Q and R; and therefore their light and colour were almost always fluctuating, and continued, as it were, in a perpetual conflict I took particular notice that they appeared almost the first and last of the parhelia, excepting that of N.

"The arches which composed the small halo M N next to the sun, seemed, to the eye, to compose a single circumference, but it was confused, and had unequal breadths; nor did it constantly continue like itself, but was perpetually fluctuating. But, in reality, it consisted of the arches expressed in the figure, as I accurately observed for this very purpose. These arches cut each other in a point at Q, and there they formed a parhelion; the parhelia M and N shining from the common intersections of the inner halo, and the whitish circle O N M P."

Phenomena of the same kind are sometimes seen during the night as the effects of lunar light, and these are called paraselenæ. The most beautiful appearance of this kind which has been described, was that seen by Hevelius at Dantzic, in 1660. When first observed, the moon was surrounded by a white circle, in which there were two coloured paraselenæ opposite to each other. Another circle of light was afterward formed, the lower line of the circumference