

IX. *Extract of a Letter from Dr. Josephus Laurentius Bruni, of Turin, F. R. S. to Mr. Henry Baker, F.R.S. concerning the Bologna Bottles.*

*Dated at Turin, Nov.  $\frac{22}{11}$  1744.*

*Dear Friend,*

Read Jan. 31. 1744-5. **T**HE Seed of the *Gramen tremulum*\*, which you favoured me with, has amazed all here who have seen it. The curious People in this Country talk much of a Phænomenon, which is called of the *Bologna* Bottle, because it was first discover'd at *Bologna*. If you let these Bottles fall perpendicularly from some Height upon a Brick-Floor, they will not be broken; but if you drop into them some little hard Bodies, they will burst in Pieces. I will give you an Account of what I try'd myself about them.

I took one of these glass Bottles, whose Form resembles a *Florence* Flask, and whose Capacity is about three Quarters of a Pint, and let it fall down from the Height of five Feet and half upon a Floor of Brick, and it was not broken: I then let fall down into it, from the Mouth to the Bottom internally, a Piece of Flint-Stone, weighing 11 Grains; and immediately the Bottle burst into many Pieces.

I took one of those Pieces, weighing a Dram, and let it fall in the same manner into another Bottle, which I moved circularly for a Minute; and then  
putting

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\* See these Transactions, N<sup>o</sup>. 457.

putting it upon a Table, in about a Quarter of an Hour it broke in Pieces.

Into a third Bottle I dropped a Piece of Whetstone, weighing 40 Grains; and in some few Minutes the Bottle was broken.

I filled another Bottle half-full of Water, and let fall into it a small Piece of Flint stone; and after four Hours it burst.

I let fall into three other Bottles a Piece of Wood weighing 50 Grains, a Piece of Brass weighing 300 Grains, and a Ball of Lead weighing 140 Grains; and neither of them was broken.

These Bottles are thicker at the Bottom than the Neck. The Glass-Maker blows them, and lets them cool, without putting them again into the Oven. And, from the Experiments, I take notice, that what is capable of breaking them ought to have some Roughness: And I am told that a Grain of River-Sand will break them.

The first Opportunity I shall send you two or more of these Bottles; and am, &c.

X. *A Letter from Mr. Tho. Wright to James Theobald, Esq; F. R. S. concerning Two ancient Camps in Hampshire.*

Read Feb. 7. 1744 5. **L**AST Summer, during my Stay in the West of *England*, common Report, and my own natural Curiosity, led me to a Place in *Hampshire* called *Buckland Castle*, or, more vulgarly, the *Rings*; where I found two neighbouring