

*An Extract of a Letter, written at Paris Novemb. 7. 1671. (ft. n.)
by Monsieur Christian Hugens de Zulichem to the Publisher ;
concerning the Observations of Saturn mentioned in the next fore-
going Discourse : English't out of French.*

S I R,

There is something indeed, that hath kept me, week by week, from writing to you ; which is the Printed paper, accompanying this Letter. For the Observations of *Saturn*, therein contained, I had deliver'd two Months ago ; but Signor *Cassini*, purposing to publish at the same time the sequel of his Observations of the *Solar spots*, the Engraving, and other circumstances have caused such a retardment, that all this appears not till now, and that to my great regret, because having predicted the Return of the *Round Figure* of *Saturn* towards the End of this year, there wants but little but that the Prediction is accomplish't before others have been advertised thereof. I say this as to Forraign Countries; for our Philosophers here know very well, that as soon as Signor *Cassini* had told me, that the *Arms* of *Saturn* were returned, I said, that assuredly they would dis-appear before the End of this Year. I still observed them yesterday in the evening, but they were so faint and obscure, that it was hard to discern them ; so that within a few days they will appear no more at all. This confirms altogether my *Hypothesis* of the *Ring*, which now dis-appears in proportion that the rays of the Sun do obliquely illuminate the *flat* surface of it, obverted to our sight. And the Appearances of this year give occasion to predict the Return of the *Round figure* with much more exactness, than before.

An Extract