

Urine, all which by boiling, get the Taste of Salt. This first Matter, or Foundation of the Generation of Metals in Vitriol, which is easier to believe, since we see that all of them by Art may be reduced thereunto, and the Manner of reducing some of them shall be declar'd hereafter.

This Vitriol by the Heat of subterranean Fire, and Attraction of the heavenly, sends forth two Fumes or Vapours; the one earthy, subtil, and unctuous, and something digested, which the Philosophers call Sulphur, because it hath the Qualities thereof: The other Vapour is moist, waterish, slimy, and mingled with very fine Earth; and this is the next Matter, whereof Quicksilver is made. If these two vaporious Exhalations do find a free and wide Passage out of the Earth, then being carry'd up into the Region of the Air, they are converted into Comets, Clouds, Snow, Hail, Thunder, and other Things that appear there.

But if the aforefaid Exhalations chance to be included between hard Rocks, in strait and narrow Places, whence it cannot get out, or the Place be already full of Minerals, the said Vapours will thicken, and be turn'd into those they call half Minerals.

If these Fumes penetrating the Rocks, do not meet with a kind of clarify'd Brimstone, that shines like Silver, and is something like unto the Fire-stone, which the *Spaniards* call *Marcasita* (without which no Metal can be engendred) they will stain the Rocks with several sorts of Colours; if these Vapors ascending, and endeavouring to get out meet with any Stones so hard as they cannot penetrate them,