

parts detached from him, and constrain them to circulate around his body ; and at the same time the mutual attraction of the particles of matter would form themselves into globes at different distances from the sun, the nearest of which necessarily moving with greater rapidity in their orbits than those at a distance.

But another objection may be started, and it may be said, if the matter which composes the planets had been separated from the sun, they, like him, would have been burning and luminous bodies, not cold and opaque ; for nothing resembles a globe of fire less than a globe of earth and water ; and by comparison, the matter of the earth and planets is perfectly different from that of the sun.

To this it may be answered, that in the separation the matter changed its form, and the light or fire was extinguished by the stroke which caused this motion of impulsion. Besides, may it not be supposed that if the sun, or a burning star, moved with such velocity as the planet, that the fire would soon be extinguished ; and that is the reason why all luminous stars are fixed, and that those stars which are called new, and which have probably
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