

historical representation of the terrestrial globe. The earth, according to him, existed previously in chaos; and, at the time mentioned by Moses, it received the form, situation and consistency necessary to be inhabited by the human race. ~~I shall not enter into a detail of his proofs, nor undertake their refutation.~~ The exposition we have just made, is sufficient to demonstrate the difference of his opinion with scripture, and consequently the insufficiency of his proofs. On the whole, he treats this matter as a theological controvertist, rather than as an enlightened philosopher.

Leaving these erroneous principles, he flies to ingenious suppositions, which, although extraordinary, yet have a degree of probability to those who, like him, incline to the enthusiasm of system. He says, that the ancient chaos, the origin of our earth, was the atmosphere of a comet: that the annual motion of the earth began at the time it took its new form, but that its diurnal motion began only when the first man fell; that the ecliptic at that time cut the tropic of cancer, opposite to the terrestrial paradise, which was situated on the north-west side of the frontiers of Assyria: that before the deluge, the year began at the autumnal equinox:

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