

that this planet is chiefly composed of a more dense matter than emery, and less dense than zinc.

Finally, the density of the Earth being to that of Mercury :: 1000 : 2040, or ::  $10\frac{5}{18}$  :  $20\frac{266\frac{2}{3}}{1000}$ , it must be thought that this planet is composed of a matter less dense than iron but more so than tin.

To the question, how can animated nature, which you suppose every where established, exist in planets of iron, emery, or pumice stone? I shall answer, by the same causes, and by the same means as it exists on the terrestrial globe, although composed of stone, gres, marble, iron, and glass. There are other planets like our globe, whose principal is one of these matters; but the external causes will soon have altered its superficial strata, and according to the different degrees of heat or cold, dryness or humidity, they will have converted this matter into a fertile earth proper to receive the seeds of organized nature, which only needs heat and moisture to develope itself.

Having answered the most obvious objections, it is necessary now to explain the facts, and observations, by which we are assured that the sun is only an accessory to the real heat, which continually emanates from the globe of  
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