solidity, we have in the orbs of our own system evidence of corresponding gradations of density. The planets near to the sun are denser than those which are more distant: thus Mercury, which is the nearest, is the heaviest, being almost thrice as dense as the earth; while the density of Jupiter, which is far removed, is not more than one-third that of our planet; and Saturn, which, with the exception of Herschel, is the remotest, is but little more than one-eighth as dense; and is supposed to be as light as cork.*

But I must not pursue this sublime subject farther; those who feel desirous of more ample information may consult a popular abstract of the discoveries of modern astronomy, recently published, under the title of "Views of the Architecture of the Heavens."†

You will at once perceive that this theory can in no wise affect the inference that the universe is the work of an all-wise and omnipotent Creator. "Let it be assumed that the point to which this hypothesis guides us, is the ultimate boundary of physical science—that the nearest glimpse we can attain of the material universe, displays it to us as occupied by a boundless abyss of attenuated matter; still we are left to inquire how space became thus occupied —whence originated matter thus luminous? And

* Introduction to Astronomy, by Sir J. F. W. Herschel.

† By Dr. Nichol, Professor of Practical Astronomy in the University of Glasgow.