

that the orbits of the planets, and above all, that of the earth were then perfect circles; that the deluge began the 18th of November, 2365 of the Julian period, or 2349 years before Christ; that the solar and lunar year were then the same, and that they exactly contained 360 days; that a comet descending in the plane of the ecliptic towards its perihelion, passed near the globe of the earth the same day that the deluge began: that there is a great heat in the internal part of the terrestrial globe, which constantly diffuses itself from the centre to the circumference; that the internal constitution and form of the earth is like that of an egg, the ancient emblem of the globe; that mountains are the lightest part of the earth, &c. He afterwards attributes to the universal deluge, all the alterations and changes which have happened to the earth; he blindly adopts the theory of Woodward, and indiscriminately makes use of all the observations of that author on the present state of the globe; but he adds much of his own when he speaks of its future state: according to him it will be consumed by fire, and its destruction will be preceded by terrible earthquakes, thunder, and frightful meteors; the sun and moon will have a hideous aspect; the heavens will appear to fall,