

in two words, “—and the stars ?” —If not our earth merely, but the entire solar system, were to be this instant blotted out of existence, it would be no more missed in the aspect of the universe,—EXCEPT TO THE GLORIOUS CREATOR’S EYE,—than a grain of sand blown away from the sea-shore ! Yet it is most evident that any person not acquainted with the true system of the world, would, after his most careful study of this portion of the Bible, rest in the conclusions, that our earth is, not in moral importance only, but in physical magnitude, by far the greatest of the Creator’s works ; and that the entire furniture of the heavens is solely a provision for our convenience and comfort.

It is a further evidence that the style of this primitive document was framed in conformity to the phraseology of simple men in unpolished times, that the successive processes are described in a child-like conversation form. “God said, Let there be light ;—let there be a firmament ;—let the earth bring forth ;—let us make man ;” using in each instance the same formula of introduction and then of narrating the effect. Now, is there a man who seriously believes that the Infinite Spirit exercised vocal organs, the supposition of which would imply a corporeal structure ; or that he willed the effect of voice without those organs, creating the impulses upon an elastic medium which, had there been an animal ear to have received the impression, would have duly impinged upon it and produced the effect of articulate words ; as “God spake all the words of the law” from the top of Sinai, so as to be heard and understood by a million and a half of people ? To my judgment, this circumstance carries with it the force of demonstration.

The same style is shown in the second and the subsequent narratives.

“The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.” To the