

on it place a globe two feet in diameter ; this will represent the sun ; Mercury will be represented by a grain of mustard-seed, on the circumference of a circle of 164 feet in diameter for its orbit ; Venus a pea, on a circle 284 feet in diameter ; the Earth also a pea on, a circle of 430 feet ; Mars a rather large pin's head, on a circle of 654 feet ; Juno, Ceres, Vesta, and Pallas, grains of sand, in orbits of from 1,000 to 1,200 feet ; Jupiter a moderately-sized orange, in a circle nearly half a mile across ; Saturn a small orange, on a circle of four fifths of a mile ; and Uranus a full sized cherry, or small plum, upon the circumference of a circle more than a mile and a half in diameter. As to getting correct notions on this subject by drawing circles on paper, or, still worse, from those very childish toys called orreries, it is out of the question. To imitate the motions of the planets in the above-mentioned orbits, Mercury must describe his own diameter in forty-one seconds ; Venus in four minutes and fourteen seconds ; the Earth in seven minutes ; Mars in four minutes forty-eight seconds ; Jupiter in two hours fifty-six minutes ; Saturn in three hours thirteen minutes ; and Uranus in two hours sixteen minutes."

How little does the world, which is our habitation, appear when compared with the system to which it belongs ; but how much more so when contrasted with the immensity of the universe. What a sublime sight is presented to view when the bright hemisphere with its million worlds is unveiled before us ; worlds that, for aught we know, may be as thickly inhabited as our own. But all these are at a distance too great to be measured, and yet possessing an independent light sufficiently intense to cast a glimmering ray upon the earth. The astronomer says they are suns, and in all probability the centres of systems as large and important as that of which the earth is a member. No appearance in material existence can, perhaps, raise our conception of the wisdom and power of the Supreme Mind so high, as a view of the celestial sphere when presented to the sight by the aid of art ; and the adoration that is excited can only be increased by a combined estimate of the mighty energy that supports all these systems, with the solicitude that is evinced in the provisions for animal existence, and the endless happiness of man.

Such considerations as these are adapted to every mind that possesses a power of raising itself in any degree above