

**MORE WORLDS THAN
ONE: THE CREED OF THE
PHILOSOPHER AND THE
HOPE OF THE CHRISTIAN**

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More Worlds than One: The Creed of the Philosopher and the Hope of the Christian by Sir David Brewster

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SIR DAVID BREWSTER

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"MORE WORLDS THAN ONE"

THE CREED OF THE PHILOSOPHER

AND THE HOPE OF THE CHRISTIAN.

BY

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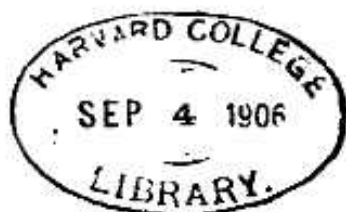
'Bright star of eve, that send'st thy softening ray
Through the dim twilight of this nether sky,
I hail thy beam like rising of the day,
Wast thou a home for me when I shall die?

"Is there a spot within thy radiant sphere,
Where love, and faith, and truth, again may dwell;
Where I may seek the rest I find not here,
And clasp the cherished forms I loved so well?"

NEW YORK:
ROBERT CARTER & BROTHERS,
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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
PREFACE,	v
INTRODUCTION,	7
CHAP. I. Religious Aspect of the Question,	15
II. Description of the Solar System,	26
III. The Geological Condition of the Earth,	43
IV. Analogy between the Earth and the other Planets,	61
V. The Sun, Moon, Satellites, and Asteroids,	94
VI. The Motion of the Solar System round a distant Centre,	115
VII. Religious Difficulties,	131
VIII. Single Stars and Binary Systems,	162
IX. Clusters of Stars and Nebulae,	173
X. General Summary,	184
XI. Reply to Objections drawn from Geology,	204
XII. Objections from the Nature of Nebulae,	215
XIII. Objections from the Nature of the Fixed Stars and Binary Systems,	225
XIV. Objections from the Nature of the Planets,	239
XV. The Future of the Universe,	269

P R E F A C E .

Having been requested by the Editor of the *North British Review* to give an account of a work entitled *Of a Plurality of Worlds, an Essay*, I undertook the task, in the belief that it contained sentiments similar to my own, and that I should have the gratification of illustrating and recommending a doctrine which had long been the creed of the Philosopher, and the hope of the Christian. I was surprised, however, to find that, under a title calculated to mislead the public, the author had made an elaborate attack upon opinions consecrated, as I had thought, by Reason and Revelation; and had, in concluding his argument, not only adopted the *Nebular Theory*, so universally condemned as a dangerous speculation, but had taken a view of the condition of the Solar System, calculated to disparage the science of Astronomy, and to throw a doubt over the noblest of its truths.

Under ordinary circumstances I should have contented myself with such an analysis and criticism of the work as could be given within the narrow limits of a Review; but while the boldness of the author's speculations, and the ingenuity with which they were maintained, required a more elaborate examination of them, the new views which presented themselves to me during the study of the subject, demanded a copious detail of facts which could be given only in a separate Treatise. I have, therefore, devoted the principal part of the volume to a statement of the arguments in favor of a Plurality of Worlds, and have endeavored, in the subsequent chapters, to answer the various objections urged against it by the author of the Essay, and to examine the grounds upon which he has attempted to establish the extraordinary doctrine, "that the Earth is really the largest planetary body in the Solar System,—its domestic hearth, and the only world in the Universe!"

ST. LEONARD'S COLLEGE, ST. ANDREWS,
April 25th, 1854.

MORE WORLDS THAN ONE.

INTRODUCTION.

THERE is no subject within the whole range of knowledge so universally interesting as that of a Plurality of Worlds. It commands the sympathies, and appeals to the judgment of men of all nations, of all creeds, and of all times; and no sooner do we comprehend the few simple facts on which it rests, than the mind rushes instinctively to embrace it. Before the great truths of Astronomy were demonstrated—before the dimensions and motions of the planets were ascertained, and the fixed stars placed at inconceivable distances from the system to which we belong, philosophers and poets descried in the celestial spheres the abode of the blest; but it was not till the form and size and motions of