COSMOGRAPHY: OR PHILOSOPHICAL VIEWS OF THE UNIVERSE

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Cosmography: or philosophical views of the universe by Charles F. Winslow

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CHARLES F. WINSLOW

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CHARLES F. WINSLOW, M.D.

" The heavens are thine : the earth also is thine; as for the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them. The north and the south, thou hast erented them. - PSALM (XXXIX, 11, 12.

BOSTON:

CROSBY, NICHOLS, & CO.

NEW YORK: C. S. FRANCIS & CO.

1853.

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PREFACE.

In presenting this little book to the world, I did not intend to make any prefatory remarks, inasmuch as I had expressed a word here and there in its pages by way of apology for what may be considered innovation or presumption. But, since the work has passed the press, I have

felt more than ever the necessity of great accuracy in the pursuit of its important inquiries; and, though my convictions of the correctness of its main features are continually strengthened, I would have my ideas expressed with such precision, that there should appear nothing like error in the facts stated, or in the philosophy set forth. In some instances, this

PREFACE.

object may not have been fully carried out; and I feel sensible of several deficiencies which will probably be observed by others.

The composition was first commenced as a private letter, by way of amusement, to a scientific friend; but, the subject having enlarged itself beyond my intention, I followed the suggestion of others, and changed my purpose so far as to transform the epistle into a book. Since doing so, I have partly regretted it, for reasons stated sufficiently at large in the body of the work. The views, however, if altogether erroneous, will do no harm to mankind; but, if correct, they will enlarge the bounds of human knowledge, and impart fresh vigor to scientific inquiry.

March, 1853.

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DEVELOPMENT OF THE THEORY OF REPULSION AS A PLANETARY, SOLAR, AND UNIVER-SAL FORCE.