

**THE STARS AND THE
EARTH: OR,
THOUGHTS UPON SPACE,
TIME, AND ETERNITY**

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The Stars and the Earth: Or, Thoughts Upon Space, Time, and Eternity by Felix Eberty

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FELIX EBERTY

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EXTRACTS
FROM A FEW OF
THE MANY HIGHLY EULOGISTIC REVIEWS
THAT HAVE APPEARED OF
"The Stars and the Earth."

From the Border Watch, November 5.

"Our readers, we are confident, will thank us for introducing them to 'The Stars and the Earth.' Perhaps nothing we ever read, of unimpaired man's penmanship, has excited within us sensations of a more startling yet pleasurable kind. We know not who the author is, nor under what circumstances the sublime idea, the outline of which he has here so ably sketched, was first suggested to his mind; but this we will say, that a life of scientific research has often borne surlier fruit than is here presented to the world for a shilling; and men have had their names handed down to posterity, as the world's benefactors, who have not given birth to any thing half so valuable as the theory we have just endeavored to explain. We wait with impatience the promised development of the magnificent idea partially opened to us in 'The Stars and the Earth.'"

From the Family Herald.

"This little book contains a new idea, which is saying a great deal in these times of intelligence, when all creation is ransacked by the genii of poetry, philosophy, science, and theology, for something new, striking, and entertaining. It is an idea, too, which is infinitely sublime and beautiful. It is one of the most poetical ideas which the human mind can entertain, — so ideal which is not merely chimerical and imaginary, but based on scientific facts, and logically true. We wonder it has never been hit upon before. We have sometimes been very near it, and are only surprised that we never caught it. We give the author full credit for the discovery, and thank him for it.

"Once more we thank the author for a magnificent poetical idea, too rich ever to be forgotten by a mind that loves the sublime and the beautiful."

REVIEWS.

From the Cambridge Advertiser.

"To our metaphysical readers—and to all who, as Christians, or even as Natural Theologians, desire to have clearer and more satisfactory views of the mysterious attributes of the Omnipotent, and of Time and Space—we cordially recommend this little work."

From the Cambridge Independent Press.

"This is a splendid little work, and cannot be too freely circulated. It is written in a popular style, and with much simplicity; valuable, not only to adults, but very instructive to children."

From the Critic.

"Forty-eight small pages, suggesting food for a life of thought."

From the Greenock Advertiser.

"A rare thing,—out of the common path,—and from its very novelty worthy of a little examination."

From the Nottingham Review, October 20.

"A little work, full of bright guesses and lovely imaginings, which will be right welcome to the bold-minded student who dares to grapple with problems the most intricate, and who aspires after that higher knowledge which is found above the region of sense, and can only be even glanced at as the result of a complete and sustained abstraction of the soul from all inward and lower associations. Many of the thoughts are striking in themselves, and will become suggestive of ideas yet more novel in the intelligent reader's mind. We have much pleasure in commending it to the perusal of all persons who are sufficiently blessed with imagination to comprehend subjects which are above the level of commonplace."

From Dolman's Magazine, December, 1840.

"Limited as is the space of this publication, it contains a fund of deep thought which larger works on astronomical subjects have seldom developed. It is most logically written. Step by step, from undeniable premises, does the writer prove his point, until the omniscience of the great One Deity is made apparent to our mortal vision, and in an extraordinary new and clearer light."

THE STARS AND THE EARTH;

OR,

THOUGHTS UPON

SPACE, TIME, AND ETERNITY.

Fourth American,

FROM THE THIRD ENGLISH EDITION.

BOSTON:

NOYES, HOLMES, AND COMPANY,

219 WASHINGTON STREET.

1874.

PORTLAND, Me., April 16, 1874.

Messrs. NOYES, HOLMES, & Co. having informed me that they propose publishing a new edition of the "Stars and the Earth," I take occasion to add a word upon some points in that book. In the first American reprints I corrected some trifling errors of scientific statement into which the writer had fallen on pages 10-12. The planet Neptune was discovered soon after page 12 was written. The statement on page 9, that no attempts have been made to measure the velocity of light in terrestrial spaces, now needs correction; the attempt was successfully made by Foucault and Fizeau in the year succeeding the date of my letter. The statement on page 16, that the most recent astronomers hold that some nebulae are distant stellar systems, is no longer true; the evidence fails to show that we see aught beyond our Milky Way. The fact assumed on pages 84-87 that a perfect lens could reduce a picture to a point is not a fact; and I ought to have noticed the error more distinctly than I did in my phrase, "we think he fails." The picture could not be reduced to a point unless either the picture were removed to an infinite distance from the lens, or else the lens itself had an infinitely short focus; that is, were itself only a point. But these instances of inaccuracy as to fact do not detract from the value of the little book in its office of stimulating the imagination to unwonted flights in the realm of the possible in Space, Time, and Eternity.

THOMAS HILL.

RECOMMENDATORY LETTER

FROM THE REV. THOMAS HILL.

MESSRS. CROSBY & NICHOLS : —

Many thanks, my dear Sirs, for the copy of "THE STARS AND THE EARTH," a little book which I had not before seen, but with which I have been highly delighted. It does resemble, in the nature of its topics, the concluding chapters of my own "Geometry and Faith," to which you allude, and which is publishing by C. S. Francis, of New York; but the author has selected quite a different example for illustration, and developed with much more minuteness and fulness the leadings of this idea. I need not say how cordially I should welcome a reprint of "The Stars and the Earth"; if for no other reason, for this, that it is pleasant to have fellow-laborers in any good work.

* A revised edition in press by G. P. Putnam's Sons.