

**THE STRANGE
PLANET: AND
OTHER STORIES**

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The strange planet: and other stories by Mary Atkinson Maurice

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MARY ATKINSON MAURICE

**THE STRANGE
PLANET: AND
OTHER STORIES**



The Strange Planet.

To face the Title.

THE
STRANGE PLANET,
AND
OTHER STORIES.

BY THE AUTHOR OF
"AIDS TO DEVELOPEMENT," "THE MEMORIALS
OF TWO SISTERS," &c.

LONDON:
J. HATCHARD AND SON, 187, PICCADILLY.
1844.

LONDON:

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PREFACE.

A DIFFICULTY is often felt by Christian parents and teachers, in finding such occupation for children during the Sunday, as shall make that sacred day, both profitable and pleasant to them.

It was to meet in some measure this difficulty, that the following stories were written for a class of young persons, who were led by familiar conversation to discover the meaning of the allegories, and to draw practical inferences from them. For each subject they were required to bring proofs, and in this manner a Scripture lesson was given, calculated to awaken attention and interest.

Teachers are particularly recommended to adopt the same plan, and for their use the subjoined texts have been selected and annexed to each subject.

The general want of a connected knowledge of the Scriptures, induced the writer to throw together the leading facts contained in them, and to continue the history down to the present time in the form of a narrative. Those unaccustomed to teaching, could hardly credit the extreme ignorance that exists even amongst well-educated persons, on subjects connected with the Scriptures, and this partly from not realising the facts there recorded, as the narratives of actual events which have occurred, and partly from reading the Bible, not as a whole, but in detached portions, which are thereby isolated and separated from each other in the mind.

It will be seen that the Scripture references, are not merely given as pa-

parallels to the passages cited in the stories, but also as illustrations of the meaning they are intended to convey. Children will be much more interested, if allowed to bring their own references, than if merely required to look out those supplied for them.

The writer's end will be fully answered if the perusal of these stories, should lead any young persons to feel "the sabbath a delight," instead of looking upon it as a weariness, and longing that it should be over, as is too often the case, when the child, unable to keep its attention continually directed to high and holy things, is yet expected to be occupied with such employments as are suited to the sacredness of the day.

