

**MORE WORLDS THAN ONE: THE  
CREED OF THE PHILOSOPHER  
AND THE HOPE OF THE  
CHRISTIAN, PP. 1-263, 1853**

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More Worlds Than One: The Creed of the Philosopher and the Hope of the Christian, pp. 1-263,  
1853 by Sir David Brewster

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# MORE WORLDS THAN ONE

## THE CREED OF THE PHILOSOPHER

### AND THE HOPE OF THE CHRISTIAN.

BY

SIR DAVID BREWSTER, K. H., D. C. L.

F. R. S., F. R. S. L., F. R. S. E., AND ASSOCIATE OF THE INSTITUTE OF FRANCE.

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

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

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No. 630 BROADWAY.

1855.



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## 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.

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### 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 described in the celestial spheres the abode of the blest; but it was not till the form and size and motions of