

**EXPLANATIONS; A  
SEQUEL TO "VESTIGES  
OF THE NATURAL  
HISTORY OF CREATION"**

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Explanations; a sequel to "Vestiges of the natural history of creation" by Robert Chambers

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**ROBERT CHAMBERS**

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# EXPLANATIONS:

A Sequel to

“VESTIGES OF THE NATURAL HISTORY  
OF CREATION.”

BY THE AUTHOR OF THAT WORK.

*SECOND EDITION.*



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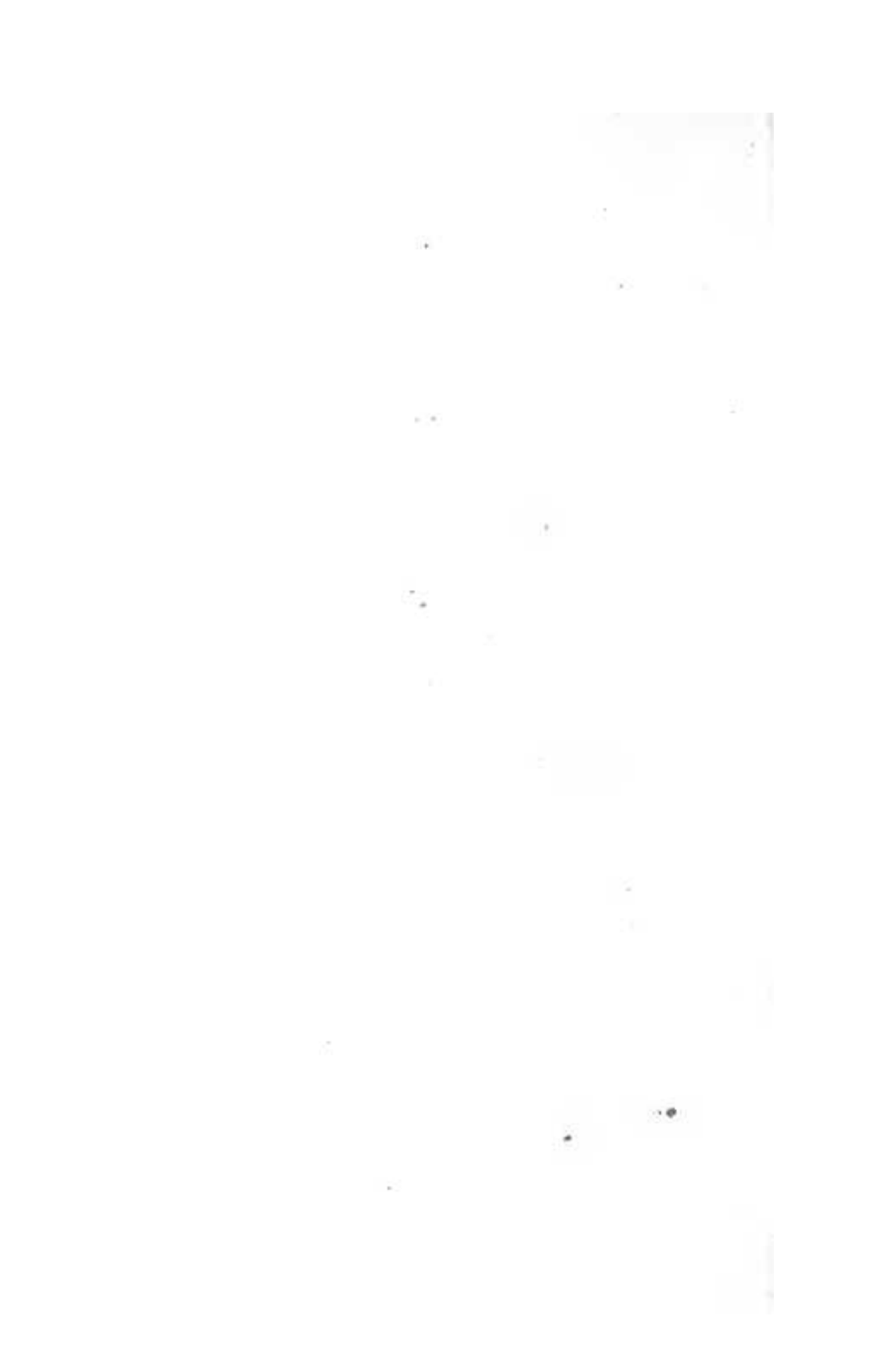
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## EXPLANATIONS.

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WHEN the work to which this may be regarded as a supplement was published, my design was not only to be personally removed from all praise or censure which it might evoke, but to write no more upon the subject. I said to myself, Let this book go forth to be received as truth, or to provoke others to a controversy which may result in establishing or overthrowing it; but be my task now ended. I did not then reflect that, even though written by one better informed or more skilled in argument than I can pretend to be, it might leave the subject in such a condition that the author should have to regret seeing it in a great measure misapprehended in its general scope, and also so much excepted to, justly and unjustly, on par-

ticular points, that ordinary readers might be ready to suppose its whole indications disproved. Had I bethought me of such possible results, I might have announced, from the beginning, my readiness to enter upon such explanations of points objected to, and such reinforcements of the general argument, as might promise to be serviceable. And this would have seemed the more necessary, in as far as it may be expected that there are many points in a new and startling hypothesis which no one can be so well qualified to clear up and strengthen as its author. I might have felt, at the same time, that a new adventure, for whatever purpose, in the same field, was hazardous, with regard to any favourable impression previously produced; yet such an objection would, again, have been at once overruled, seeing that public favour and disfavour were alike beyond the regard of an author who bore no bodily shape in the eyes of his fellow-countrymen, and was likely to remain for ever unknown. Such reflections now occur to me, and I am consequently induced to take up the pen for the purpose of endeavouring to make good what is deficient, and reasserting and confirming whatever has been unjustly challenged