able to their nature; it is reasonable to conclude that the others are also inhabited with beings capable of serving and adoring the Great Creator, and enjoying a portion of his munificence. A comparison of the other globes which compose the Solar System, with that of the Earth we inhabit, their sizes, probable accommodations, and sources of comfort, as these may be drawn from the most correct discoveries of astronomers, will tend to convince us that they are the habitations of intelligent beings.

MERCURY, the planet nearest to the sun, is, in diameter, less than one half of that of the earth, (three thousand one hundred miles;) and its distance from that bright luminary thirty seven millions of miles. On account of his proximity to the sun, and no spots appearing on his disk, his diurnal rotation on his axis, or the length of his day and night, cannot be ascertained. He revolves round the sun, and completes his year in eighty eight days, and moves, in this revolution, at the rate of one hundred and five thousand miles in an hour.

VENUS, the planet next in distance from the sun, (sixty-nine millions of miles,) is nearly as large as the Earth, being seven thousand five hundred miles in diameter. The length of its day and night, from a comparison of the best observations made by the most correct astronomers, is twenty three hours and twenty two minutes; and its year is completed in about two hundred and twenty four of our days, moving at the rate of seventy six thousand miles in an hour. "When this planet appears to the west of the sun, it rises before him in the morning, and is called the Morning Star; and when it appears to the east of the sun, it shines in the evening after he is set, and is called the Evening Star."

Fairest of stars, last in the train of night,
If better thou belong not to the dawn,
Sure pledge of day, that crown'st the smiling morn
With thy bright circlet, praise him in thy sphere,
While day arises, that sweet hour of prime.
Milton.

Fair Venus shines
Even in the eye of day; with sweetest beam
Propitious shines, and shakes a trembling flood
Of soften'd radiance from her dewy locks.
Barbauld.

Next to Venus is the EARTH, at the distance of ninety five millions of miles from the sun; and it is seven thousand, nine hundred and twenty eight miles in diameter. It performs its diurnal rotation in twenty four hours, and its annual circuit round the sun in three hundred and sixty five days, six hours and nine minutes, moving at the rate of fifty eight thousand miles in an hour, which, though one hundred and twenty times swifter than the speed of a cannon ball, is little more than half the velocity of Mercury in his orbit.

Round the Earth, and at the distance of two hundred and forty thousand miles from it, revolves the MOON, a secondary planet or satellite, giving light in the absence of the Sun by reflecting his rays towards the Earth. Its diameter is two thousand one hundred and eighty miles, and it attends the Earth in its course round the Sun, revolving round it in a direction contrary to the daily rotary motion of the Earth on its axis, and completing this revolution in a lunar month or twenty-nine and a half days. By observing that the same side of the Moon is always towards the Earth, it is found that it revolves on its own axis once only during its revolution round the Earth, and consequently that the length of its day and night is twenty-nine and a half of our days. The length of its year is the same as that of the Earth; and it enjoys the advantage of light reflected from the Earth which serves as a moon to it. The Moon, viewed through a telescope, presents the appearance of seas, continents, and mountains, and it seems more than probable that it is inhabited by intelligent beings