

celebrated Athens was so full of statues dedicated to deities, that it was said by a satirist to be much easier to find a god than a man in that city. The multitude of heathen divinities became so prodigious, that Hesiod computed thirty thousand to be hovering above the earth in the air; and Varro enumerated not fewer than three hundred Jupiters.

Happy should I be, were it in my power to say, that modern idolatry was of better character; but alas! it is not; for into whatever direction of the Pagan world we turn our eyes they are met with "gods many." The objects of worship in Tartary, the Philippine Islands; and amongst many of the savages of Africa, are not only "the sun, moon and stars, but the four elements and serpents. At Tonquin, the several quarters of the earth are deified; and in Guinea, birds, fishes and even mountains, and almost every where evil spirits." In China a multitude of imaginary spirits are worshipped, which, "are supposed to preside over the seasons of the year, over mountains and rivers, and even the door and hearth of the house, and to influence all the concerns of men." In Hindostan the polytheism is of the grossest kind—not fewer than *three hundred and thirty millions of deities* of various characters, receive the adorations of their deluded and wretched votaries.

2. The text implies that another feature in the character of idolatry, is *sensuality*. Its gods are the "gods of the earth," and properly so called, not merely in