

## THE EVOLUTION OF WORLDS

BY A. T. DELURY

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IN the growth of science it is a striking fact that the thought and strivings of different ages have been very markedly affected, one might say guided or even controlled, by some outstanding prejudice, conviction or method. Thus in the science which our Society fosters, the assumption that the earth is the centre of the universe held the rein on astronomical activity throughout a long period rooted in an antique past and shading significantly into the age we call modern. So also in the newer age of science heralded by Leonardo da Vinci and Bacon, the distinctive mark is the demand that knowledge of the world of nature must be made to rest on observation and experiment. True, observation and experiment were not new as methods, the great legacy of Greek astronomy standing a monument to the true spirit of scientific enquiry, but now they were formulated and insisted upon as the only final basis and investigation went forward under the new impulse. In our day the great interpretive principle that dominates all science is that implied in the theory of evolution. As in the case of the directing method of