

9. Mars, the fourth in the system, is about one-fifth as large as the earth, and moves round the sun in something less than two years.

10. Jupiter is the fifth planet from the sun, and the largest that has yet been discovered, being near one thousand times larger than the earth, and five times more remote from the sun. Jupiter revolves round the sun in twelve years nearly, and has four satellites or moons moving round him; they receive their light and heat from the sun, and reflect the same upon Jupiter as our moon does upon the earth. He is also surrounded by dark circular spaces, or zones, called his Belts, which, either, are spaces on his surface, that do not reflect light so well as the other parts, or dark clouds in his atmosphere, that remain undispersed.

11. Saturn is the next in the order of the system, and, until within these eight years, was supposed the most remote from the sun. Saturn is about half as large as Jupiter, and is nearly thirty years revolving round the sun: He has seven moons moving round him, whereof two have been discovered lately by Dr. Herschell; and a prodigious ring or belt about him, placed edge-ways, but detached, nearly

to the distance of one of his semidiameters, from him: and the breadth of the ring is equal to another semidiameter.

12. Georgium Sidus, or the Georgian Planet, is the most distant from the sun, as yet discovered; it is ninety times as large as the earth, and moves round the sun in about eighty-three years. Its discoverer, Dr. Herschell, who called it the Georgian Planet, in honour of king George, has already found out three moons belonging to it. The distance of this planet from the sun, is nineteen times that of the earth's; and the sun appears three hundred and sixty times less, and his rays more faint, to its inhabitants than to us.

13. Besides the motion of the planets round the sun, called their Annual or Yearly Motion, they have another round their own axis from west to east, called their Diurnal or Daily Motion. So that each Planet has a twofold motion, an annual and a diurnal; but the sun has only the latter. He revolves round his axis from west to east, in twenty-five days and an half.—The times of the diurnal revolutions of only four of the planets are yet known, viz. Venus, the Earth, Mars, and Jupiter. The proximity

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