

solar system, having a vast ocean of water about its surface, instead of being enveloped with fire as at present.

During the whole period of this coming alternation, *our* World-Life will be in its childhood or youth (as it were), the serious practical work of *our* World-Life not beginning in earnest until the subsequent alternation *naturally* occurs; again reversing the condition of our solar system, so that the sun again becomes the great source of light and heat, and the revolving planets again the habitable worlds, as at present.

So stupendous a change as this alternation in the solar system occurring periodically (with the regularity of the minor alternations of day and night, summer and winter, &c.,) would perhaps be absolutely incredible to such very limited comprehensions as human beings now possess, did not the telescope already reveal to us many solar systems in the reverse condition to that of ours at present. It is now very well known that *hundreds* of "double, triple, quadruple, and multiple stars" are "physically connected" together, so that they "revolve about each other" in very limited periods of time (much as do the planets of our solar system). Is there any good reason whatever to doubt that these are generally solar systems in the reverse condition to that of ours at present? The planets of these solar systems being evidently the sources of light and heat revolving about their great central habitable world. The distance being so enormous, of course, it is impossible for us to see their central habitable world, however great that may be; nevertheless, we may see plainly enough the light of the several planets, which, of course, appear to us to be revolving about each other.

Should this very simple and obvious explanation be disputed, or denied; the alternative is evidently that we must suppose that there are a vast number of sources of light and heat (more or less like our sun,) revolving about each other, and expending their enormous forces of light and heat for no *adequate* purpose whatever! anyone who could possibly entertain so preposterous a supposition as this, would certainly manifest but little knowledge or understanding of "the economy of nature."