

circumstances. The revolutions of day and night, of the moon, and of the seasons, afforded marks for the division of time ; but the inequalities of those periods, and the want of unity of purpose and of information among nations, presented almost insuperable difficulties, in the way of fixing points or eras as general standards for the world. These difficulties occasioned much confusion, and many efforts were made to overcome them. Our own Sir Isaac Newton turned his mighty mind to the subject, and has rectified ancient chronology by laborious and most ingenious calculations. Eclipses of the Sun and Moon, which have been carefully noted by superstition as well as by learning, have greatly helped to adjust computations of time ; as have many other phenomena, connected with the constellations and other heavenly bodies. A study of Chronology, comprising the acute reasoning, the interesting facts, and the ingenious calculations connected with it, is of itself of great interest; and would seem amply sufficient to repay the attention of the man of leisure and taste. At present, the labours of the eminent men who have gone before us, have so reduced the actually necessary attention to the science, that a reference to chronological tables is sufficient for the reader of History; at the same time, he ought to make himself acquainted with an outline of the difficulties, the proofs, and the importance of the subject, that he may pay the requisite respect to its deductions.

If *Chronology* determines the *time* when great events happened, *Geography* points out the *place* of their transaction. And this mere statement of the case, is sufficient to convince of the importance of the studies. They are indeed the eyes of history. By the one we trace the great succession of events on the Chart of Time, and by the other we see the theatre of those events in the Map of the World. *Geography* gives a clear view of the situation and relativemagnitude of Countries, prevents mistakes, and *verifies* many remarkable transactions, by the traces which remain of them. The Student of History should have his Atlas beside his Book; and should refer to it, while he reads of expeditions, conquests, boundaries, colonies, and the various matters connected with Geographical position. What I have just said of Chronology, may also apply to Geography—altho its study as a science is exceedingly to be desired, yet the labours of others, have so simplified its outlines, that the reader of history may glean the mere necessary information at a glance.

Want of attention to geography, has led to many absurdities; I will quote one, which occurs in Shakespear's play called *Winters Tale*. This admirable depicter of human life, in the third act of this Drama, lays a scene in "Bohemia.—A desert Country near