

Contents.

CHAPTER I.

A WONDERFUL STORY.

Instinct of curiosity—A story of surpassing interest—Narrative of facts—The realm of the wonderful—Instruments used in astronomy—Glory of creation—Other worlds—Happy escape from materialism—A most inspiring study—Domain of the mental and spiritual	PAGE 11
---	------------

CHAPTER II.

THE EARTH HERSELF A STAR.

The dwellers on Venus—Sun's light reflected—Radiant cottage windows—Glowing clouds in the west—Size of the earth—Her form—Her thin crust—Ocean of fire below—Volcanic eruptions—Earth's motion on axis—Movement round the sun—Amazing accuracy as to time—The earth's poise in her orbit—Variety of seasons—Superstition of scepticism—The undevout astronomer	17
--	----

CHAPTER III.

THE MOON.

Comparatively a small globe—Phases—Eclipses—Why not oftener eclipsed—Ancient Chinese astronomy—Eclipses predicted three thousand years ago—Sublime constancy of nature—Is the moon inhabited?	29
---	----

CHAPTER IV.

A UNIVERSE OF LIGHT AND FIRE.

The central fire—The fuel—Shovelling in moons—A celestial journey—Ambition and patience of astronomers—Motion of light and sound—Blowing a trumpet in the sun—A furnace of fire—The ultimate motive power—Niagara a drop in the bucket	37
--	----