

that is, by themselves alone: before combustion can ensue, these gases must be mixed in certain proportions. In order, therefore, to ensure the safety of the planetary bodies, we must conceive these two combustible gases to be taken up from separate nebulae, some comets being charged with oxygen and others with hydrogen gas, the only two primary combustible gases. By this separation neither of them can be ignited, as they may pass the orbits of the planets at the nearest approach comets have been known to make to those orbits. The comets having then arrived near enough to our sun and to the suns of other systems, their gaseous tails are then attracted by the draft of the fire of the suns and deposited in them, thereby restoring the waste of their combustion.

We consider the extracts above given to be a powerful support of this theory of the comets, in which we trust to have shewn how they perform the vast purpose of restoring the waste of the suns; and when we reflect on the stupendous quantities of the combustible gases required for it, we need no longer be surprised at the millions of comets said by the Astronomers to be contained in the universe; neither, for the same reason, need we doubt that the Creator may have established elaboratories in some part of the regions of space, for the replacing the enormous waste of the suns, either by certain laws, or by His own immediate agency.

The above important purpose is not, however, the only one which we humbly conceive the comets are intended to perform. By the combustion of the oxygen and hydrogen gases for the supply of the suns of the universe, stupendous quantities of aqueous vapor must be generated. Without the removal of these masses of vapor, the light and heat of the sun might be in part obstructed. We have therefore conceived that another great purpose of the comets is, to take up (by their power of attraction) and to transport these vast masses of vapor into various regions of infinite space, for their future condensation into oceanic waters, and in which, by the same processes by which our earth was formed, in the ocean of Genesis, as shewn in this work, so in future