

L A N D.

4. A Peninsula is a part or portion of the earth almost surrounded with water, save only a narrow part or neck of land which ties or unites it to a continent; as Africa itself, Jutland, &c.

5. A. Isthmus is a narrow part of land, by which a peninsula is joined to a continent, or main land; as the Isthmus of Panama, which joins North and South America together, the Isthmus of Corinth, &c. &c.

W A T E R.

4. A Gulph, or inland sea, is a part of the ocean almost surrounded with land, save some strait or narrow gut of water by which it has communication with the ocean, as the Gulph of Arabia, the Mediterranean Sea, &c.

5. A Strait is a narrow passage or part of the sea, which joins one sea to another; as the Straights of Gibraltar, which joins the Mediterranean Sea to the Atlantic Ocean, the Straights of Babelmandel, &c. &c.

*A farther Description of the GLOBE of the EARTH, with the imaginary great Circles and Appendants belonging.*

Great circles are such as cut the globe in two equal parts, passing through the center: all such as do not cut the sphere in two parts are called lesser circles. There are six in number, viz. the Equator or Equinoctial, the Ecliptic or Zodiac, the Brazen Meridian, the Horizon, and the Colures.

1. Of the EQUATOR.

The Equator on the Terrestrial, or Equinoctial on the celestial globe, is a line, or circle, that cuts the globe in two equal parts, dividing the north from the south; and upon the artificial globe is easily known by two broad lines running parallel to each other, and a fine hair line between them: it is divided into three hundred and sixty equal parts, called degrees, beginning at the first meridian, (or sign Aries) and is marked from 1 with 10, 20, 30, 40, &c. to 360 quite round: and on some globes you will find a cypher (0) at the meridian of London under the Equator, and runs on to 10, 20, 30, &c. to 180 degrees east, called east longitude; and 10, 20, 30, &c. to 180 to the left hand, to shew the west longitude.

2. Of the ECLIPTIC and ZODIAC.

The Ecliptic is another great circle of the sphere, which cuts the Equator at the two points Aries and Libra, making an angle at each point of twenty-three degrees thirty minutes, which is its furthest, or remotest extent, either north or south, from the Equator.

The Zodiac is a broad imaginary circle, which extends itself (according to the rules of astronomy) eight degrees on each side of the Ecliptic, and is that which contains the twelve signs, and in which the planets perform their revolutions. The line in the middle drawn parallel is called the Ecliptic, because eclipses happen in or near the line. It is also called *Via Solis*, the Sun's path-way or motion. But in modern Astronomy, it is that circle or path that the earth describes to an eye placed in the center of the system, viz. the sun.

The Ecliptic (like the Equator) is divided into three hundred and sixty degrees, but not numbered from 1, 10, &c. as the Equator, but is divided into twelve equal parts, containing thirty degrees each, which are called Signs, and have different names and characters; six of which are north, and six south, viz.

*The six Northern SIGNS.*

♈ Aries.    ♉ Taurus.    ♊ Gemini.    ♋ Cancer.    ♌ Leo.    ♍ Virgo.

*The six Southern SIGNS.*

♎ Libra.    ♏ Scorpio.    ♐ Sagittarius.    ♑ Capricorn.    ♒ Aquarius.    ♓ Pisces.

The Signs which stand opposite to each other shew the different seasons of the year; thus Aries ♈ shews Spring, Libra ♎ is Autumn, Capricorn ♑ Winter, and Cancer ♋ Summer. Their significant names are Aries ♈, or the Ram; Taurus ♉ the Bull; Gemini ♊ the Twins; Cancer ♋ the Crab; Leo ♌ the Lion; Virgo ♍ the Virgin; Libra ♎ the Scales; Scorpio ♏ the Scorpion; Sagittarius ♐ the Archer; Capricorn ♑ the Goat; Aquarius ♒ the Water-pot; and Pisces ♓ the Fishes.

N. B. The Ecliptic cuts or intersects the Equator, or Equinoctial, at the two points, or signs, Aries ♈ and Libra ♎, viz. on the twenty-first day of March and twenty-second of September, N. S. on which days the sun is in the Equator, and has no declination either north or south, therefore days and nights are then equal to all the inhabitants on the globe of the earth.

3. Of the MERIDIAN.

The Meridian is another great circle, which divides the earth in two equal parts. It is represented on the artificial globe by a thick brass hoop, which surrounds it from north to south, and divides the Equator into two equal parts, viz. the east from the west, and is that on which the globe itself is hung, or turns round upon by its axis, the Extremities of which are called the Poles.

This Brazen Meridian, like the Equator and Ecliptic, is divided into three hundred and sixty degrees; but with this difference, it is divided into four nineties, as follows: from the Equator to-