

extent of the material universe, rising from this earth to the other planets of our system; then to the fixed stars, each of which he supposes, (apparently on good grounds,) to be a sun, the centre of another planetary system; then carrying us away into the depths of space, to the galaxy, and among the nebulae, which the most powerful telescope has hitherto been unable to resolve, but which may consist of separate suns with their systems of planets;—and after all, leaving a boundless extent, far beyond the investigation of man, or, it may be, even beyond the flight of a Seraph's wing:—we feel ourselves lost and overwhelmed, in contemplating the magnitude of the wondrous structure raised by the hand of the Almighty Architect. How little does man, or even the whole human family, appear, when viewed in this light! We need not wonder that such a thought suggested the exclamation of the shepherd youth, who afterwards filled the throne of Israel, "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained, What is man that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man that thou visitest him?" Of this, the question quoted by Dr. Jack from the anonymous author of the *Plurality of Worlds*, is simply a paraphrase. "How then shall the Earth, and Man its inhabitant, thus repeatedly annihilated, as it were, by the growing magnitude of the known universe, continue to be any thing in the regards of Him whose care embraces the whole of the works of His power? Least of all, how shall Man continue to receive that special, preserving, judicial, personal care, which religion implies, and without the belief of which, any man who has any religious thoughts, must be disturbed and unhappy, desolate and forsaken?"

There is a difference, however, between the exclamation of the Psalmist and the question of the Philosopher. The former is the utterance of a sentiment of adoring wonder; the latter, that of a felt difficulty. Not that this difficulty has any power over the mind of Dr. Jack, but he has stated it as the ground on which some have denied the existence of other inhabited worlds besides our own. The difficulty, however, has arisen from