

The Earth.

Analyses.

1. Definition.
2. Appearance of the Earth in Spring & Summer.
3. Appearance “ “ “ “ Autumn & Winter
4. Appearance “ “ “ in the night & Day
5. The beauties & miseries of the Earth.
6. The contrast between the Earth, the abode of man, & Heaven, the dwelling place of God.

The Earth is a vast body of land & water, resembling, in its shape, a ball. There is about three times as much water, as there is land. The land is divided into five great divisions, viz.: Europe, Asia, Africa, America, & Oceanica, all of which differ as regard their size, shape, &c. even their inhabitants. It, likewise, possesses five great Oceans, commonly called the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Northern & Southern Oceans, from which the inhabitants of the lands derive great benefits. How beautiful is the Earth! especially in the spring and summer. The hills & dales are covered with a mantle of green. The trees are rocking to and fro in the winds, while from the blossoms of which proceed the most refreshing odors, and upon whose branches sit the feathered songsters, chanting their beautiful songs in honor of God & his works. The gentle small streams ripple along the hillsides, endeavoring to rival in noise those larger streams, into which they flow. The farmer has returned to his plough to trod his weary way. The lambs frisk about the field, but soon the hot sultry summer comes, and the dumb beasts, imitating man, seek repose beneath the trees whose umbrageous branches serve to screen them from the warm rays of the sun. Everything seems dull. The streams of water are nearly dried up, but still things, which are not scorched by the sun, look extremely beautiful. But how different is the Earth in two following season, Autumn & Winter! The trees are stripped of their leaves, which, sear & withered, are blown hither & thither by the autumnal winds, whose moanings and wailings are incessantly heard. Every thing appears dull, but ere the Ides of Dec. have arrived, another change is visible; the snow descends, and the ground, houses, aye, the whole earth seem to be clothed in white robes. There may be heard the merry sounds of bells, and the loud laughter of the school-boys, as the snow-balls proceed from their hands. Then can we contemplate the misery and pleasure upon this earth. The poor sit in their hovels, surrounded by everything, which seems to render them [...] & miserable, shivering, and as they put on the fire the last stick of wood, they wonder where the next will be obtained. The rich, enjoying that makes them cheerful, listening only the howlings of the wind without, thinking of themselves only – selfish beings. How beautiful is the Earth in the night season! When the moon, the nocturnal attendant of the Earth in her wanderings, “hangs her lamp on high”, covering everything with a faint tinge of yellow, making the dew-drops on the grass glitter in its mild beams. The innumerable subjects of the moon, the stars, as if imitating, and aiding their queen in spreading her glory, and in endeavoring

to make the Earth appear more beautiful, twinkle and now and then, to give token of their obedience. The Earth, conscious of being in the presence of a superior, becomes still, & bids her works cease their noise. But soon another is introduced in the scene, and the moon, from her modesty, withdraws herself, to give place to the new-comer & rival. Then does the Earth appear in all her exquisite beauty, & the sun comes forth to give the Earth the benefit of his light & warmth, and she starts on her works, being accustomed to his presence, and thereby rendering herself fitter for his presence. All are busy, and the various noises, proceeding from various sources, combine. Art and Nature seem to exert all their powers to load the Earth with beauty; Art builds a city, and places in it the finest ornaments, constructed out of the finest materials, by which she pleases herself, and astounds the world; but modest Nature, arrayed in all her simplicity, comes forth, and strews her path with flowers, seemingly simple, but whose construction man as yet has never comprehended, and which surpasses in loveliness all the works of art. Misery, Suffering, & crime, the haters of everything that is beautiful and ennobling, whose polluted steps contaminate the Earth, are inhabitants of this earth, and their vestiges will remain forever & ever.

How innumerable are the blessings, which God has bestowed upon this Earth! He seems to have tried all his art in making this Earth the storehouses of his best works. God made the world, and everything therein. He made the beast, birds, fishes, and lastly to crown the whole he made man, a combination of all, unto whom He gave discourse of reason, and whom He likened unto Himself. Truly is this a world of trials, misfortunes, and misery. The fickle-minded goddesses of Fortune Fame & Temptation dwell upon this Earth, and exert their greatest influence to make us discontented with this earth. How different is the world from what it once was! Formerly, there roamed over these beautiful hills an uncivilized race of beings, and everything is changed but human nature. Art has usurped the throne of nature, and has confined it to very narrow limits. Even the appearance of the Earth has changed. The trees of Nature have yielded before the axe of Art. Where there was once a forest, the pride of Nature, now stands a city, the beauty of Art, whose lofty towers threaten the skies. Thus has the Earth been changed. It [^...] has been entirely altered by civilization, which is fast stretching across this beautiful world. Though we admire civilization, yet we cannot help thinking how much more lovely was the Earth in its primitive beauty. Nature, whose works as yet are arrayed in garments of mystery, satisfies herself by pleasing the Earth, but ever-working Art is never contented, until she rivals in splendor & elegance the productions of Nature. Thus have I attempted to describe this changeable earth, its inhabitants, its varying aspects & its progress & its beauty. But how [...icant] is this Earth, the abode of man, where compared to Heaven, the dwelling-place of God, and the future residence of the good, where nothing is, or can be, altered, where nothing can be rendered more beautiful! This is an Earth of suffering; that of eternal bliss. Here reigns everything that is mean, base or ignoble; there nothing but goodness and perfection. The beauties of this Earth dwindle into mere nothingness, when we reflect upon the beauties of Heaven.

Egypt.

1. How is Egypt founded?
2. Where was kingdom of Egypt founded & by whom?
3. What river flows through it & what [...]
4. Its ruins.
5. Inhabitants,
6. Character, &c.

Egypt is founded on the north by the Mediterranean Sea, east by the Red Sea, south by Nubia & west by the Great Desert. The kingdom of Egypt was founded, according to the belief of ancient historians, about the year 2188 B.C., by Menes or, more commonly, [Misraim]. This is a country of perpetual summer, and its western portion may properly be termed a desert. This is a country, rendered famous by the deeds of its first king and founder Menes in ancient times, and in later times by the conquests of Alex. the Great and in modern times by the success of Napoleon, the “man of destiny,” as he is appropriately styled. Egypt, as I have previously stated, was a barren country, al-