

PART SECOND.

DESCRIPTIVE GEOGRAPHY.

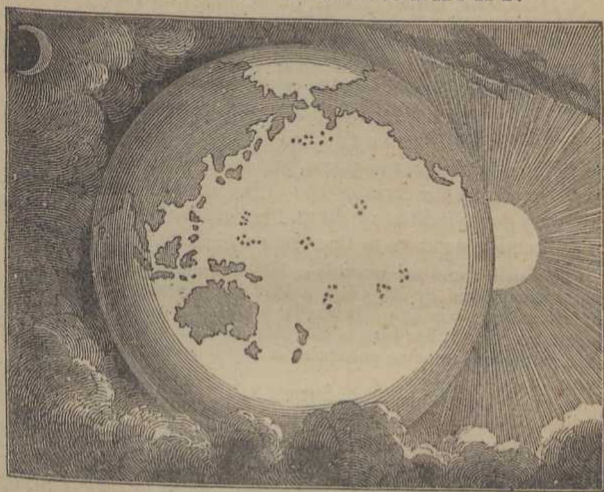


Figure and Population of the Earth.

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1. The Earth is a vast globe or spherical body similar to a solid ball. Its entire surface is about 200 millions of square miles, of which one-fourth or 50 millions of square miles is land, and the remaining three-fourths are covered with water.

2. Ignorant people suppose the earth to be a flat body, bounded on all sides by the sea and sky. More attentive observers were, however, long ago persuaded that it is a globe or sphere, similar in form to a ball or apple.

3. Various circumstances render it evident that the earth must be a body round in every direction; of which one of the

1. What is the earth? What is its entire surface? How much is land? How much is water? 2. What do ignorant people suppose the earth to be? Of what were more attentive observers persuaded? 3. What is one of the most striking proofs that the earth is round in