



I consider thy heavens, the work of
thy fingers, the moon and the stars,
which thou hast ordained.

- Psalm 8:3

1. According to the Bible, *the earth stands still in space*. Psalm 93, 1: "The earth stands fast that it cannot be moved." I Chronicles 16, 30: "The world also shall be stable, that it be not moved." Psalm 104, 5: "He hath founded the earth upon its base, that it should not be removed forever." As a builder constructs a house on a base or a foundation that it stands firm against the storm, even so has the heavenly architect firmly founded the earth, this great building, upon its base, so that it can never be moved from its place. Psalm 119, 90: "Thou hast established the

earth, and it standeth." These are only a few passages out of many. It is the literal truth of the Bible. And Jesus, our Redeemer, endorses it by saying: "And the Scripture cannot be broken." (John 10, 35.) And through his apostle he states: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine." (2 Tim. 3, 16.) Should we not, then, accept the above passages as divine truth?



2. But did not *Foucault's pendulum* prove that the earth revolves in twenty-four hours upon its axis? In the introduction to Ray's *Elements of Astronomy* Mr. Peabody calls it "a beautiful experiment." Andrew White triumphantly exclaims: "And in 1851 the great experiment of Foucault with the pendulum showed to the human eye the earth in motion around its own axis." (Warfare, 1900, I, p. 157.) Let us glance briefly at the instrument called the pendulum. Foucault's pendulum had a sixty-one pound ball on a steel-wire 223 feet in length. If we let a pendulum oscillate in a direction north and south, then will its even oscillation, as Foucault assumes, be unaffected by the

rotation of the plane, and consequently the earth will move ahead below its swinging-line. Now, if this is to prove the rotation of the earth, the deviation of the earth below from the swinging-line of the pendulum must be in all cases the same. But the trouble is, the deviation is not the same with all pendulums. The heavier the bob, the slower becomes the deviation of the pendulum; the lighter the bob, the more rapidly the deviation. Since the rotation of the earth upon its axis, if existing, must be a uniform one, necessarily with all pendulums the deviation should be uniform; but this is not the case. Or does the earth move with different velocity under different pendulums? Dr. Schoepffer, an eye-witness of the experiment, says: "In an introductory speech Dr. Menzzer at Quedlinburg showed that until then there had been no proof for the Copernican hypothesis, the so-called proofs being, after close investigation, just as many confutations, until the Foucault pendulum showed the rotation of the earth uncontrovertibly. The pendulum was tied, the string was burnt, the swingings began, but the pendulum deviated to the left, instead of to the right. It was hastily brought to rest. New burning of the string. This time the deviation was the one desired, and we were invited again to be present in the church the next morning at eight o'clock, to be convinced that the deviation agrees with the theory. On the following morning, however, we saw that the pendulum during the night had changed its mind, and had from the deviation to the right again returned to the left. To me this new proof did not seem to be quite in order. My belief in the Copernican doctrine was shaken by the speech of Dr. Menzzer, and I concluded to go to Berlin for an explanation. After seeing the pendulum-experiment here also and, strangely, again with a deviation to the left, I went to Alexander v. Humboldt, who was indeed ever the first refuge of those seeking information. He received me very

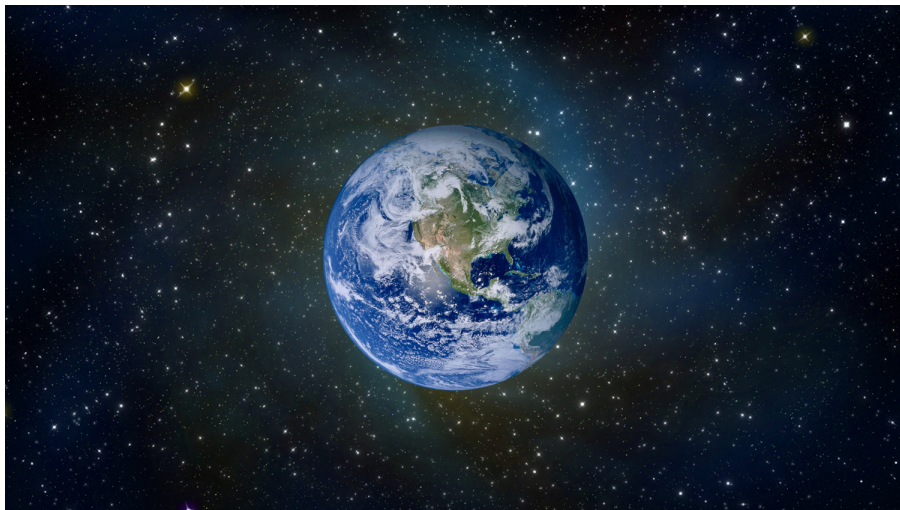
friendly and spoke the memorable words: I have known, too, for a long time, that as yet we have no proof for the Copernican system, but I shall never dare to be the first to attack it. Don't rush into the wasps' nest. You will but bring upon yourself the scorn of the thoughtless multitude."



Furthermore, I have found, by careful experiments, that a skillful experimenter can let the pendulum deviate either to the left or to the right. And we must not overlook the fact that the deviations may be caused by air-currents, electricity, earth-magnetism, special apparatus, and perhaps many other causes. Blunt and Cox observed the most curious and contrary swingings. Phillips of New York found very great hourly deviations in the swinging-line. Walker observed a peculiarly swift deviation when the pendulum swings in the magnetic meridian. D'Oliveira at Rio de Janeiro stated that the pendulum deviates to the right in the direction of the meridian, but to the left in the direction of the parallel. This deviation, diametrically opposed to the theory, was seen very often. And sometimes the pendulum does not deviate at all. Much more could be said against this "beautiful experiment." Though beautiful it

may seem to the theorist, it certainly is far from being irrefragable evidence for the earth's motion.

3. But how is it possible that the ponderous earth can stand still hanging on nothing, some Copernican will exclaim. Yet just that is the case; for we read Job 26, 7: "He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and *hangeth the earth upon nothing*." To this Matthew Henry remarks in his commentary: "The vast terraqueous globe neither rests upon any pillars, nor hangs upon any axle-tree; and yet, by the almighty power of God, is firmly fixed in its place, poised with its own weight. The art of man could not hang a feather upon nothing, yet the Divine Wisdom hangs the whole earth so. It is *ponderibus librata suis*—poised by its own weight, so says the poet; it is upheld by the word of God's power, so says the apostle." The Bible denies a motion of the earth. Ecclesiastes 1, 4: "The earth abideth (Hebrew: *amad*=stands, rests) forever."



4. Further incontestable proof for the fact that the earth stands fast is *our atmosphere*. The air which surrounds

us, always tends to expand. We have proof for an immense height of the air. When Humboldt stood on Mount Chimborasso in Ecuador, South America, that mountain being 20,648 feet or nearly four miles high, he saw a condor soaring far above him like a little speck. Scientists tell us that the atmosphere or aeriform fluid surrounding the earth is about fifty miles high. We are told that under the equator everything moves eastward with a speed of 1,250 feet in a second because the earth rotates. Were it possible that the ever expansive air should be able to follow such speedy motion? Assuredly not; it would be retarded and seem to rush westward 1,250 feet in a second, which would more than ten times surpass the velocity of the most fearful hurricane.

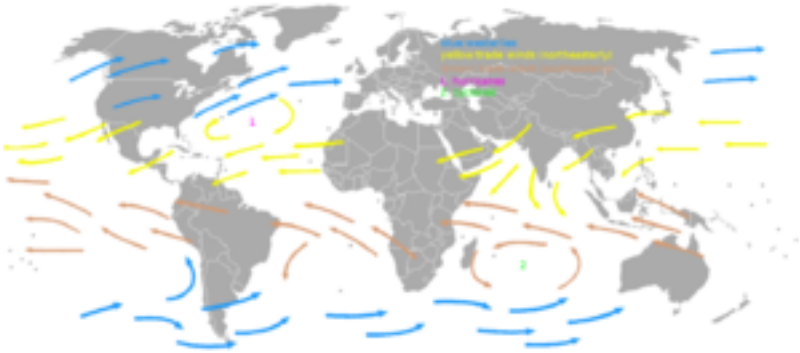


Add to this a motion of the earth around the sun and another of the sun through space, and you have the astounding speed of fifty miles in a second! Must not by this the air be entirely lost, or at least follow the earth like the tail of a comet? Copernicans tell us that just by the rapid

motion the air is pressed tight to the earth. But can they show us where the pressure begins or takes place? We certainly ought to feel or notice something of a pressure so fabulous and enormous. However, we feel it not in the least. We see the smoke rise free and unmolested up into the air, calmly the clouds sail to and fro far over us, the air-ship rises and ascends above the clouds: but nowhere is the swift motion of the earth or that mysterious pressure felt. Where, then, is it?

5. Our opponents have felt that argument. They clearly saw that the great pressure caused by the earth's rotation ought to be noticed somehow. For that reason, they have always urged that the *Trade Winds* in the hot belt are caused by the swiftly moving earth. While the earth moves eastwardly, the Trade Winds move westwardly. However, not only are these winds much too unstable to prove the earth's steady motion, but this theory is also thoroughly refuted by other air-currents, quite regularly moving eastwardly, in direct contrast to the theory. Now, after accurate meteorological observations of more than sixty years it is generally known that, as a rule, the winds in the temperate zone do not move westwardly like the Trade Winds, but eastwardly. In the cold zone however they move, as a rule, toward south-east. Therefore Prof. Joseph Henry of our Meteorological Institution at Washington carefully called this proof of the Copernicans a mere hypothesis and admitted: "The effects produced by the air, the water, and the land, are however of a much more complicated character, and like the problem of the mutual action of all the planets on each other, have never yet been submitted to a successful mathematical analysis." (Scientific Writings, II, 44f.) As early as March 11, 1861, the director of the Smithsonian Institution wrote to an air-

ship sailor by the name of Lowe: "It has been fully established by continuous observations for ten years collected at this Institution from every part of the United States, that as a general rule all the meteorological phenomena advance from west to east, and that the higher clouds always move eastwardly."



But that is directly opposed to the theory. It is high time for Copernicans to learn that the direction of the winds is not referable to the rotation of the earth upon its axis in the sense of receiving its impetus from that motion. In our scientific and enlightened age, it ought to be known that change of atmosphere, temperature, cloud-formation, rainfall, direction of the winds, and other weather phenomena and meteorological elements, are dependent principally upon the influence of sun and moon.

6. If the Foucault pendulum is not disturbed by the earth's rotation, *how, then, is it that the atmosphere must obediently follow that motion?* May we not deduct from the "beautiful" pendulum-experiment, that an eagle soaring up in New York must after two hours come down in California, having, together with the surrounding air, been undisturbed by the rapidly moving earth? Or, if that dreamed of great pressure of our atmosphere really existed,