

one on which we live,"* how many vain theories and how much useless work would have been saved!

How many times the earth, or portions of it in another planet, was peopled by the Lord before Adam was placed upon it, we are not informed; but from the fact that he was commanded to replenish, or re-fill it, we may infer that it had, in some form, been inhabited before our first parents came here. But of this no account is given us by revelation.

How fully and how wisely the earth was prepared before being sent on its present voyage, with provisions, with material for clothing, with fuel, and with all the necessities and comforts of life, is matter of common knowledge.

The Lord has given us the name by which this part of His dominion is known to Him, as "Idumea,"† and, as to the order

* Compendium, p. 287.

† Doc. and Cov. 1: 36.