the northern hemisphere, was crowded westward on to Europe and Africa, leaving Australia to the eastward.

Daubrée, in 1880, explained the same characteristics of the sphere by reference to torsion in the crust during its contraction, and referred to the facts as according with his experiments described in his *Experimental Geology*.

W. Prinz published a paper in the Annuaire de l'Observatoire Royal de Bruxelles for 1891, in which he points out the resemblances between the great continental torsion courses of the earth, and the lines that have been observed on some of the planets. The western outline of North and South America shows well the obliquity of one of the greater torsion courses and movements. On the following diagram, Fig. 347, it is the outline to the left. Parallel with this, as Prinz explains, and about 90° to the eastward,



Oblique courses in the earth's grander outlines. Prinz.

there is another, that of the western coast of Africa, continued northwestward to Greenland; and 90° farther eastward, there is a third, following the course of the western side of Asia, from the Urals and Spitzbergen to western Sumatra and Australia. A fourth is also supposed by him to be indicated in the middle of the Pacific, nearly 90° more to the eastward, where the great central chain of islands in the ocean bends northward, and crosses the equator in the Marshall Islands. Prinz shows further from published maps that similar oblique lines have been observed on Mars (Fig. 348), and less distinctly on Venus and Jupiter. Finally, he states that M. Duner, by means of the spectroscope, has been able to determine that in the sun the 75th