

appears of moderate temperature, is greater than that of the sun which seems to burn us?

To all these objections I can give full satisfaction, but let us first reflect on the nature of our sensations. A very slight, and often imperceptible, difference in the causes which affect us, produces considerable ones in their effects. Is there any thing which comes nearer to extreme pleasure than grief? and who can assign the distance between the lively irritation by which we are moved with delight, and the friction which gives us pain? between the fire which warms and that which burns? between the light which is agreeable to our sight and that which blinds us? between the savour which pleases our taste and that which is disagreeable? between the smell of which a small quantity will at first be agreeable and yet soon after create nausea? We must therefore cease from being astonished that a small augmentation of heat, such as $\frac{1}{50}$ should appear so striking.

I do not pretend positively to assert that the innate heat of the earth is really 49 times greater than that which comes to it from the sun: for as the heat of the globe belongs to all terrestrial matter, we have no means of separating it, nor consequently any sensible