

his decreed place, and sets bars and doors, and says, ' Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed.'

What a magnificent equilibrium is presented in these conceptions! the tide of the ocean is uncontrollable by us ; nor is the insignificance of man ever more apparent than when he loses sight of land for weeks and months together, in crossing the aqueous expanse, especially when a tempest overtakes him, and his frail bark drifts and leaks, and seems to be perishing in its diminitiveness and helplessness.

'Now shivering o'er the topmost wave she rides,  
While deep beneath the enormous gulph divides ;  
Now launching headlong down the horrid vale,  
She hears no more the roaring of the gale,  
Till up the dreadful height again she flies,  
Trembling beneath the current of the skies.

FALCON. SHIPW., Cant. 3.

The agitation of the sea is equalled in its majesty and terrors only by the rockings of the earth, when hidden fires dissolve restraining barriers, and burst from their imprisonment. Who can be composed when the earth is moved, and its foundations are out of course? Who may stand by the crater, or think to close its