

temperature, must have necessarily the same degree of heat or cold; there may be a great difference in the intensity, and also in the duration, of seasons. Pekin, for instance, has the same mean temperature as Brittany, but its summers are much hotter, and its winters much colder.

Humboldt has divided the northern hemisphere into the six following zones:—

1.	The zone of mean temperature including all places	
	between	32° and 41°
2.	“	41° and 50°
3.	“	50° and 59°
4.	“	59° and 68°
5.	“	68° and 77°
6.	from	77° upward.

It has been long supposed that the temperature of the southern hemisphere is not equal to that of the northern. Buffon controverted the opinion, but Æpinus defended it, and every observation that has been made tends to prove its accuracy. The small quantity of land in the southern hemisphere causes a much greater equalisation of the seasons than in the northern, while at the same time it produces a decrease of annual mean temperature. “The discoveries of Cook,” says Humboldt, “made known the vast extent of ice round the south pole, but the inequalities in the temperature of the two hemispheres were then exaggerated. Le Gentil, and particularly Kirwan, have the merit of having first demonstrated that the influence of the circumpolar ice extends much less into the temperate zone than was generally admitted. The less distance of the sun from the winter solstice, and his long continuance in the northern signs, act in an opposite manner on the heat in the two hemispheres; and as the quantity of light which a planet receives from the sun increases in proportion to the true anomaly, the inequality in the temperature of the two hemispheres is not the effect of unequal radiation. The southern hemisphere receives the same quantity of light, but the accumulation of heat in it is less, on account of the emission of the radiant heat which takes place during a long winter. The hemisphere being also in a great measure covered with water, the pyramidal extremities of the continents have there an irregular climate. Summers of very low temperature are succeeded, as far as 50° of south latitude, by winters far from rigorous