

for such a momentary solace, what, of all his most valuable possessions, would not every one of those miserable victims have surrendered, who once perished in that dreadful dungeon of Calcutta?

In many instances nature tempers the high degree of heat belonging to particular climates, by the periodical recurrence of cooling winds at stated hours of the day. Thus, in the islands and on the coasts in general of the tropical regions of the earth, the alternations of what are called the sea and the land breeze are of the highest importance to the comfort and health of the inhabitants: of which the following statement, taken from an official paper on the medical topography of Malacca, furnishes a sufficient illustration^m. “The Malay peninsula possesses, “ though within the tropics, and almost under “ the equator, a very equable temperature and “ mild climate. Whatever be the prevailing “ wind, the sea-breeze generally sets in from “ the south between ten and twelve in the morn- “ ing, and continues till six or seven in the even- “ ing; when, after a short calm, the land wind “ begins to blow from the north-east: and so “ constant are these breezes, that, unless dur- “ ing a storm, the influence of the monsoon is “ scarcely perceptible. And so uniform is their

^m Printed at the government press, Pinang, 1830. See the Edin. Med. and Surg. Journal, for July 1831, p. 179.