

## SECT. X.

*Effects of the Motion of the Air, as connected with the Arts, &c.*

I PROCEED now to consider the effects of the atmosphere, while in a state of motion, in aiding the various arts and operations of civilized society: in which the action is sometimes explicable on mechanical, sometimes on chemical or on physical principles.

It would not be a short or easy task to enumerate the various substances which require to be deprived of all sensible moisture, in order to be applicable to the immediate purposes of life; or in order to be capable of being preserved in a state fit for future use: and the separation of that moisture which they may contain in their natural state, or which they may have accidentally contracted, can in general only be effected by exposure to the open air: but as that portion of the air, which is in contact with the moistened substance, would soon be so far saturated with the vapour arising from it as to be incapable of absorbing more, it must necessarily be replaced by successive portions of fresh air; in order that the substance may be thoroughly dried: and hence we see the advantage of currents of air, or, in common language, of the wind, for the purposes in question. Without the aid of such currents, the grass newly mown