

an insensible state an unusual quantity of moisture, that moisture, as soon as the thaw takes place, is deposited upon the surface of every thing with which it comes in contact: and there can be scarcely an individual, from the peasant to the noble, who has not often experienced the comfortless state of the interior of his habitation from this cause. The opulent indeed, supposing that nature did not provide the remedy, might easily remove, and often do accelerate the removal of the evil, by the introduction of currents of air artificially heated: but the indigent, incapable of commanding so expensive a remedy, would meet with serious detriment, did not a timely change in the state of the atmosphere enable it to reabsorb the moisture which had previously been discharged from it; for many parts of the furniture of their habitation would be injured, or even destroyed by the moisture imbibed by them: and with respect to a much more important point, a healthy state of body, both the opulent and the indigent would be alike sufferers, from a continued exposure to the external atmosphere in such a state.

In the foregoing instances currents of air have been considered as acting on a fixed point as it were, or on bodies nearly stationary. Let us now consider their action on bodies capable of being set in motion, as nautical vessels of all kinds, and we shall not fail to see the import-