

received through this double property of the eye—motion and sensibility ; and whilst we perceive that the varieties of light and shade are necessary to vision, we find that the coloured rays are also, by their variety, suited to the higher exercise of this sense. They do not all equally illuminate objects, nor are they all equally agreeable to the eye. The yellow, pale green, or isabella colours, illuminate in the highest degree, and are the most agreeable to the sense ; and we cannot but observe, looking out on the face of nature, whether to the country, the sea, or the sky, that they are the prevailing colours.* The red ray illuminates the least, but it irritates the most ; and it is this variety in the influence of these rays upon the nerve, that continues its exercise, and adds so much to our enjoyment. We have pleasure from the succession and contrast of colours, independently of that higher gratification which the mind enjoys through the influence of association.

OF EXPRESSION IN THE EYE.

In the conclusion of the volume I took occasion to remark that natural philosophy sometimes disturbed the mind of a weak person. I recollect a student who objected to the direc-

* The Astronomer selects for his telescope a glass which refracts the pale yellow light in the greatest proportion, because it illuminates in the highest degree and irritates the least.