

climates; and approximates them generally, to the character of insular climates. The mean temperature is not precisely known beyond  $51^{\circ}$  of south latitude; yet there is no reason to believe, that the Isothermal line of  $32^{\circ}$  is much further from the south pole, than, in the opposite hemisphere, the similar line is from the north pole: and some circumstances at first sight appear to show, that the Isothermal line of  $32^{\circ}$  is even nearer to the south pole, than it is to the north pole; though these circumstances are probably deceptive. With respect to the temperature of the south pole itself, like that of the north pole, we have no means of forming an accurate estimate.

Such is a summary account of the general distribution of temperature, over the northern and southern hemispheres. Now, amidst the infinite changes every where going on, there is nevertheless, at the same place, a certain average state of things, which, taken together, constitute what is called the CLIMATE of the place. Of climate, undoubtedly, temperature is the most important ingredient. But the circumstances, besides mere temperature, which enter into the formation of climate, are so numerous and diversified; and their operation, in consequence, is so complicated; that it becomes exceedingly difficult to unravel, and display them in a satisfac-