

if a central heat really do exist; its effects must be considerable, particularly within the frigid zone. Whatever be the cause of this approach to uniformity of temperature throughout the waters of the ocean at great depths, all over the globe; its use in the economy of nature, in tending to equalize the distribution of temperature, cannot be questioned; since it constitutes one of those beautiful provisions, by which the difficulties of the distribution of temperature, necessarily incidental to the earth's figure and motions, are obviated: whilst among the minor circumstances contributing to the same end, may be mentioned the tides, and the innumerable superficial currents produced by winds, and by other causes, which are to be considered elsewhere.

8. *Of the Differences of Temperature, as depending upon whether the Surface be Land or Sea.*—When speaking of the distribution of temperature over the earth's surface, we alluded to the differences between insular and continental climates; and perhaps it may not be amiss, to make a few remarks upon the actual general amount of the differences of temperature, as produced by land and water.

In the middle of oceans, and far from the influence of land, the diurnal change of temperature of the air near the surface of the sea, is