

is the *Cumulo-Stratus*, made up of the Cirro-Stratus blended with the Cumulus; the Cirro-Stratus being either intermingled with the larger masses of the Cumulus, or widely enlarging the cumulous base.

The second composite form, and the last of the four modifications, of clouds, is the *Cumulo-Cirro-Stratus*, or *Nimbus*, the *rain-cloud*; being that cloud, or system of clouds, from which rain is falling. The nimbus is a horizontal layer of aqueous vapour, over which, clouds of the cirrous form are spread; while other clouds of the cumulous form, enter it laterally and from beneath.

A little attention will enable any one to discriminate these varieties of clouds; at least when their forms are well defined. Yet, it must be acknowledged that clouds often assume forms to which it is difficult to give a name.

With respect to the *motion* of clouds, it may be remarked that there is not perhaps a more frequent subject of optical delusion, nor any thing regarding which, we are more liable to be mistaken. Into such enquiry it would be quite inconsistent with the design of this treatise were we to enter minutely; but we offer the following brief illustration. Let us suppose a cloud moving from the distant horizon towards the place where we stand. Let us also suppose that the cloud, during its motion, retains its size and figure unchanged; and that it proceeds along its course