

Lord of its creation, down to the humblest plant that drinks the dew, is alike most intimately concerned. The subject of Meteorology, therefore, in all ages and countries, has attracted the especial attention of mankind. In ruder states of society, empirical prognostics, founded on the aspect of the clouds, on the movements of animals, and on other incidental occurrences, formed the study of those who pretended to a fore-knowledge of the weather; while electrical phenomena were objects of superstitious awe. In modern times much of this wonder and uncertainty has been removed. The gloom or the clearness of the air; the mists and the halos of a stormy sky; the restlessness and clamour of animals; &c., are now referred simply to that overcharge of moisture, and to that unequal distribution of electricity, which precede a fall of rain. Nay, the very thunderbolt has been arrested in its course, and being no longer an object of amazement, has been divested of half its terrors.

But is this advance in knowledge calculated to lessen our veneration for the great Author of Nature, or to derogate from his wisdom and his power? On the contrary, our estimate of both must be greatly increased. Of the Deity, infinite as he is, and dwelling in infinity, we finite beings can form no conception. What little, therefore, we can know of Him, we know