

temperate climates ; and only in these climates can his powers be said to be completely developed. Within the tropics, indeed, human existence is flourishing ; for there the immediate bounty of Providence affords to man a copious and admirably adapted nutriment. Yet in the midst of that profusion, and without any adequate motive to call forth exertion, his reason too often languishes ; while his animal tendencies predominate ; and his life is spent in apathy and in sensual gratifications. On the other hand, under the cheerless sky of the frigid zone, imperfectly nourished by scanty and unsuitable food, the powers of his mind, like those of his body, are stunted ; or are engaged solely in combatting the rigours of his situation. But in the temperate climates, the evil consequences of both these extremes are avoided, while the beneficial influences of climate remain. Urged by the stimulus of necessity, and at the same time having at his command the astonishing capability of nature, man is, in temperate climates, surrounded by motives of every kind ; and his faculties thus attain their utmost development. As familiar examples of the effect of this expansion of the human reason, let us view man under the three aspects to which we have before alluded ; namely, with reference to his *strength* ; his *food* ; and his *clothing*, inclusive of his *habitation*.