

and will continue as long as the sun and moon, which are the causes of it.

By an examination of the bottom of the sea, we discover it to be fully as irregular as the surface of the earth; we there find hills and vallies, plains and cavities, rocks and soils of every kind: we there perceive that islands are only the summits of vast mountains, whose foundations are at the bottom of the ocean; we also find other mountains whose tops are nearly on a level with the surface of the water, and rapid currents which run contrary to the general movement: they sometimes run in the same direction, sometimes retrograde, but never exceeding their bounds, which appear to be as fixed and invariable as those which confine the rivers of the earth. In one part we meet with tempestuous regions, where the winds blow with irresistible fury; where the sea and the heavens, equally agitated, join in contact with each other, are mixed and confounded in the general shock! in others, violent intestine motions, tumultuous swellings, water-spouts, and extraordinary agitations, caused by volcanos, whose mouths, though a considerable depth under water, yet vomit fire from the midst of the waves, and send up to