

deep, by the agitations produced by the winds and tides ; but it should be recollected that the whole mass, however deep, is put in motion by the tides, and that in a liquid globe this motion would be communicated to the very centre ; that the power which produces the flux and reflux is a penetrating force, which acts proportionably upon every particle of its mass, so that we can determine by calculation the quantity of its force at different depths ; but, in short, this point is so certain, that it cannot be contested but by denying the evidence of reason, and the certainty of observation.

We cannot therefore possibly have the least doubt that the tides, the winds, and every other cause which agitates the sea, must produce eminences and inequalities at the bottom, and those heights must ever be composed of horizontal or equally inclined strata. These eminences will gradually increase until they become hills, which will rise in situations similar to the waves that produce them ; and if there is a long extent of soil, they will continue to augment by degrees ; so that in course of time they will form a vast chain of mountains. Being formed into mountains, they become