

solstice; and this theoretical truth may be regarded as certain, as the second truth from experience, and which demonstrates, by the observations of the thermometer, immediately exposed to the sun's rays in winter and summer, that the difference of real heat in these two is, nevertheless, at most only from 7 to 6; I say at most, for this determination given by M. Amontons is not nearly so exact as that which has been made by M. de Mairan, who, after a great number of final observations, proves that this relation is only as 32 to 31. What, therefore, must indicate this prodigious inequality between these two relations of the action of the *solar heat*, in summer and winter, which is from 66 to 1; and of that of the *real heat*, which is only from 32 to 31? Is it not evident that the innate heat of the globe of the earth is considerably greater than that which comes to us from the sun? It appears, in fact, that in the climate of Paris this heat of the earth is 29 times greater in summer, and 491 times greater in winter than that of the sun, as M. de Mairan has determined it. But I have already said that we must not conclude, from these two combined relations, the real one of the heat of the globe of the earth to that which comes from the sun, and I have given reasons which have determined me to suppose