

in the East Indies, the north-west wind blows during the months of November, December, and January, and produces heavy rains ; but the east wind blows during the other nine months. In the Indian ocean, between Africa and India, as far as the Malacca islands, the monsoons reign from east to west from January to the beginning of June, the west winds begin in the months of August or September ; during the interval of June and July, there are dreadful tempests generally from the north winds ; but on the coasts these winds vary much more than in the open sea.

In the kingdom of Guzarat, and on the coasts of the neighbouring sea, the north winds blow from March till September, and during the other months south winds almost always reign. The Dutch, to return from Java, generally set sail in the month of January or February, when they have the assistance of an easterly wind which is felt as far as the 18th degree of South latitude ; afterwards they meet with the south winds which carry them to St. Helena*.

There are regular winds produced by the melting of snows, which the ancient Greeks have

* See Varen. Geography, gener. cap. 20.