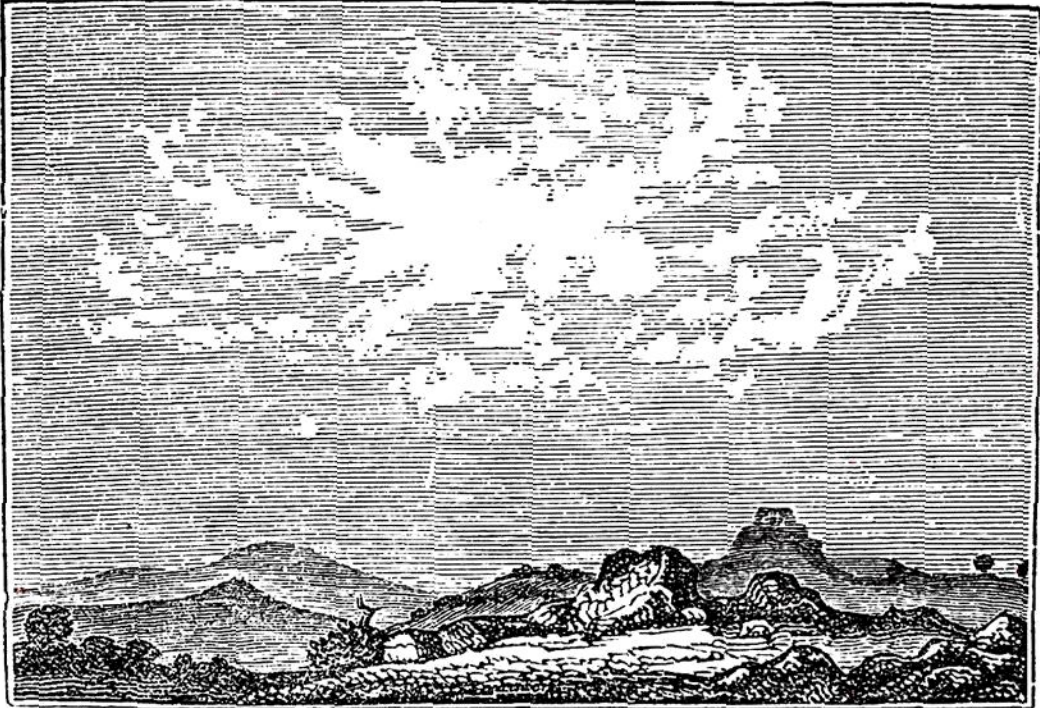


seen in dry summer weather, and, under certain circumstances, in the interval between showers. The nubeculæ of the cirro-cumulus sometimes almost cover the sky on a fine summer's evening, while at other times they are well defined, and far separated from each other. The varying forms of



this cloud are peculiarly beautiful; and there is no modification so likely to attract the attention of an observer of nature. But although it is usually the forerunner of fine weather, it is not always the indicator of peace; for when it makes its appearance with the cumulo-stratus, it is sure to be followed by a storm.

#### THE CIRRO-STRATUS.

The cirro-stratus varies in form almost as much as the cirrus itself, from which it is frequently produced. It is, like the cirrus, a fibrous cloud, but the fibres are more dense, and generally more regular, than in that modification. Its appearance is commonly followed by rainy and windy weather. It is that modification in which the halo most frequently appears, and hence it is, in all probability, as Mr. Howard suggests, that this phenomenon has been considered a prognostic of foul weather. The cirro-stratus has, under certain circumstances, so much the appearance of shoals of fish, that it has