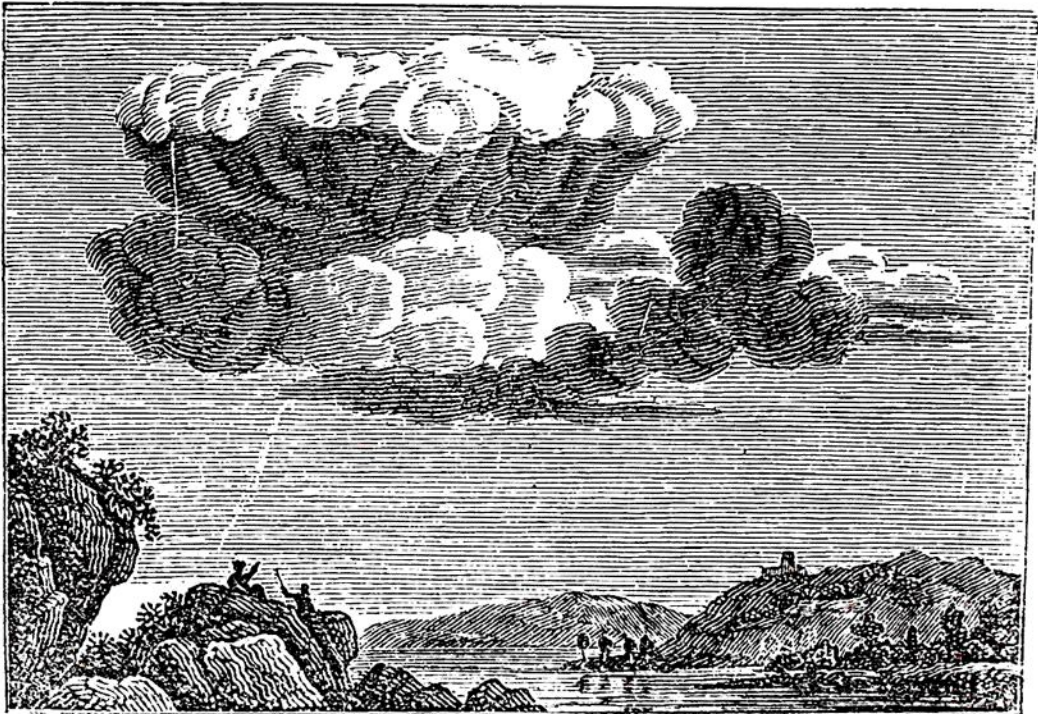


“ Sometimes we see a cloud that’s dragonish ,
 A vapour sometimes, like a bear or lion
 A towered citadel, a pendent rock,
 A forked mountain, a blue promontory,
 With trees upon’t that nod unto the world
 And mock our eyes with air.
 That which is now a horse, even with a thought
 The rack dislimns, and makes it indistinct
 As water is in water.”—SHAKSPEARE.

The cumulo-stratus gives a very majestic character to mountainous scenery, and Mr. Harvey accurately described its appearance to an observer, when he said it resembled a curtain dropping among the hills and enveloping their summits, the hills themselves reminding us of the massy Egyptian columns which support the flat-roofed temples of Thebes and Tentyrra. The usual appearance of this cloud, however, is



that of a fungus with a thick stem. Its appearance may sometimes induce a casual observer to imagine the speedy fall of rain, but it is stated by Mr. Howard and others that rain never falls from the cumulo-stratus.

THE CUMULO-CIRRO-STRATUS, OR NIMBUS.

The nimbus has generally its origin in the cumulus. Vast masses of cumuli may, under favourable circumstances,