

of the temperate region that part of the country south of the latitude where the Palmetto or Cabbage-tree (*Chamærops*) commences, namely, all the States to the south of North Carolina; while the States to the north of this limit belong to the northern portion of the temperate region.

427. This division into two zones is supported by observations made on the maritime faunas of the Atlantic coast. The line of separation between them, however, being influenced by the Gulf Stream, is considerably farther to the north, namely, at Cape Cod; although there is also another decided limitation of the marine animals at a point nearly coinciding with the line of demarkation above mentioned, namely, at Cape Hatteras. It has been observed that of one hundred and ninety-seven Mollusks inhabiting the coast of New England, fifty do not pass to the north of Cape Cod, and eighty-three do not pass to the south of it; only sixty-four being common to both sides of the Cape. A similar limitation of the range of Fishes has been noticed by Dr. Storer; and Dr. Holbrook has found the Fishes of South Carolina to be different from those of Florida and the West Indies. In Europe, the northern part of the temperate region extends to the Pyrenees and the Alps; and its southern portion consists of the basin of the Mediterranean, together with the northern part of Africa, as far as the desert of Sahara.

428. A peculiar characteristic of the faunas of the temperate regions in the northern hemisphere, when contrasted with those of the southern, is the great similarity of the prevailing types on both continents. Notwithstanding the immense extent of country embraced, the same stamp is everywhere exhibited. Generally, the same families, frequently the same genera, represented by different species, are found. There are even a few species of terrestrial animals regarded as identical on the continents of Europe and