

in our ordinary barometers. When the North-east wind brings snow, as it very frequently does, it is not by the precipitation of its own moisture ; but by its intrusion as a cold wind into a warmer atmosphere charged with moisture, and ready to deposit it under any cooling influence.

(27.) Complementary to the phænomenon just mentioned of a tendency to North-easterly wind in the spring, *i.e.*, to the production of a lull or temporary intermittence in the regular South-west current, and the substitution for it of its opposite ; may be considered that aggravation of its intensity which takes place subsequent to the autumnal equinox ; exaggerated, however, and thrown later into the season, *viz.*, into November, by the conspiring action of several distinct causes, which we will now proceed to explain.

(28.) As the sun in its annual course traverses the northern and southern halves of the ecliptic, it creates summer in the one hemisphere, simultaneously with winter in the other ; and the balance of aërial expansion and aqueous evaporation is alternately struck in favour of each. As a necessary consequence, a large amount both of air and of aqueous vapour carrying air along with it, is alternately driven over from one hemisphere to the other. The only course which the elements so transferred can pursue, is by passing in the higher regions of the atmosphere across that medial line where the two superior out-flowing currents separate on their courses towards either pole—in other words, by joining with, and reinforcing the “ anti-trade ” current on that side of the equator *towards* which they are propelled.