

ON THE
ADAPTATION OF EXTERNAL NATURE
TO THE
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF MAN.

CHAPTER I.

Introduction.

SECT. I.

The Physical Condition of Man.

WHEN Hamlet, in contemplating the grandeur of creation, breaks forth into that sublime apostrophe on man—"How noble in reason! how "infinite in faculties! in form and moving, how "express and admirable! in action, how like an "angel! in apprehension, how like a God! the "beauty of the world! the paragon of animals!"—who does not feel elated by the description? who does not feel conscious of its truth?

Nor is its truth the less admissible, because the poet, in concentrating the powers of his imagination on the excellences of that work of