

sustaining the nourishment and warmth and life of every part, the noxious principle is conveyed to the lungs ; where it is of necessity brought, if not actually, yet virtually, into contact with the air ; and thus it is effectually removed from the system.

SECT. IX.

Effects of the Motion of the Air, as connected with Human Health, &c.

IN the history of water we had an opportunity of observing how extensive are the benefits arising to mankind from that physical property, by which its particles are capable of moving with the greatest ease among each other : nor are the benefits less considerable, which arise from the same property in the element now under consideration ; especially when aided by those alterations in its volume, which follow upon every change of temperature : for from these combined causes arise those currents of air, which administer, in various modes, as well to the luxury and comforts of man, as to his most important wants.

Who does not see the miseries that would result from a stagnant atmosphere ? To the houseless and half-clothed mendicant indeed, who under exposure to a wintry sky instinctively collects his limbs into an attitude as fixed as marble, lest by their motion he should dissipate the stratum of warmer air immediately surround-