

gradually augmented; till the temperature be raised again to the point of freezing. At this point, the ice will begin to be thawed, so as to become water; but notwithstanding, heat continues to flow into the melting ice, its temperature will remain stationary, at the point of freezing, till the whole of the ice be melted; to accomplish which complete melting, a quantity of heat, equal to 140 degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer, will be found to be necessary. When the whole of the ice has been melted, if the heat still continue to flow as before, the water will acquire apparent temperature, in the same manner, in which apparent temperature had been acquired by the ice. Now this latency of heat flowing into melting ice, is produced by the real disappearance of a quantity of heat, equal to 140 degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer. But the latency of heat in melting ice, does not admit of the same explanation as the latency of heat in ice under the freezing point; or in ice, comparatively with silver: the water, instead of being greater in volume, and consequently having greater vacuities, than the ice, from which it was formed, is actually less in volume, and must therefore contain fewer vacuities. How, then, are the phenomena to be explained? We commenced our observations on heat, by alluding to the hypothesis, that under certain circumstances, heat appears capable of