

of the present order of things; without which the world would have been a mass of crystals, or one dreary monotonous void, altogether unfit for the support of the present races of organized beings, and precluding the existence of man—apparently, one great end and object of creation. Such is the business of the geologist; and where his duties terminate, those of the Meteorologist may be said to begin. To the Meteorologist, more especially, it belongs to consider the globe in its *present* condition of equilibrium; and the means by which this state of equilibrium is maintained: in particular, to point out the influences of heat and of light; and of the energies allied to them; to study the laws of the distribution, and change of these wonderful agents, in the production of climate; to trace, in short, the effects of heat and light on the earth, the ocean, and the atmosphere; and all the infinite variety of phenomena dependent on them.

In so wide and varied a field of enquiry, it is not perhaps easy to devise a plan, that shall be perfectly unexceptionable. For, as there is no one subject so entirely isolated, as not to be more or less influenced by the rest; we scarcely know which to commence with. After a good deal of reflection, we have adopted that arrangement, which seems to offer the most natural view of these subjects; and at the same time appears best calculated to illustrate the design, and wisdom, of the Great Creator.