

Nor is difference of place, the only cause of difference of temperature; every one knows, that at the *same* place, the temperature is in a constant state of change. Hence, before we can obtain correct notions of the actual temperature of any given place, or period, certain expedients are necessary, which it will be requisite first to consider.

SECTION I.

Of Mean Temperature.

IF, on any given day, we observe the temperature at the earth's surface, at the commencement of every one of the twenty-four hours, we shall find, as before observed, that at each hour the temperature is different; and we naturally enquire, which of all these temperatures is to be chosen in preference, as the one characteristic of the day and place? The answer to this question obviously is; *that temperature, whatever it may be, which is equidistant from the extremes*; or, as it is usually termed, the *mean temperature of the whole*. Now this mean temperature may be obtained, nearly, by adding all the results together, and dividing the sum by the number of obser-