

There, the thermometer in the ship, was often observed as low as -50° ; and at a distance from the ship, even as low as 55° under Zero. We believe still lower temperatures than these are on record, but probably they are not to be relied on. The greatest degree of cold hitherto produced *artificially*, has been 91° under Zero.

Of the mean annual Temperature of the Equator.
The mean annual temperature of the equatorial, like that of the polar regions, is a meteorological problem of considerable interest. Humboldt, from a very extensive generalization, fixed the mean equatorial temperature at $81\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$; and the same temperature has been adopted by others. Attempts, however, have been recently made to show that this temperature is 3° or 4° below the truth; but Humboldt in reply still maintains his former opinion. Since at the equator, only about one-sixth of the whole circumference of the globe is dry land; the general equatorial temperature, as actually found to exist, is perhaps lower than upon theoretical principles it ought to be; and certainly much below what it ought to be, as deduced from observations made on the continent in the neighbourhood of the equator. Thus the mean temperature of Pondicherry, in latitude $11^{\circ} 55'$ north, is at least 85° ; and if from this temperature, the temperature of the equator were deduced according to the common principles, the deduction