

would of course be much above the truth. The fact is, as in the case of the Polar regions, we do not possess the requisite data for determining the equatorial temperature, in a perfectly satisfactory manner.

As in speaking of the Polar regions, we noticed the *lowest* degree of temperature which had been observed; perhaps, while speaking of the equatorial regions, it may be deemed not irrelevant, to notice the *highest* temperature. Observations, however, of this kind, being principally founded on the incidental notices of travellers, are not, in general, much to be relied on; or are to be considered only, as approximations. Thus the thermometer has been recorded at Benares to stand at 110°, 113°, and even 118°. At Sierra Leone, it has been observed, when placed on the ground, to indicate a temperature of 138°. Humboldt also gives many instances of the temperature of the surface of the earth, amounting to 118°, 120°, and 129°: and on one occasion he found the temperature of a loose and coarse granitic sand, to amount to upwards of 140°; the thermometer in the sun at the time, only indicating a temperature of about 97°.

*Of the Temperature of the intermediate Regions of the Globe. Of Isothermal Lines, &c.* With respect to the temperatures of those parts of the earth, between the poles and the equator, it may