

added, or annihilated. At the same time, these irregular distributions, in struggling to restore the equilibrium, produce temporary and variable winds, which modify the regular currents, and often reverse their courses, particularly in the temperate regions; where, as formerly mentioned, the alternations of temperature, and the fluctuations of the Barometer, are the most remarkable.

Such are the elements of the general currents pervading our atmosphere; and such the modes in which these currents modify extreme temperatures and their consequences. The same causes are constantly operating in different forms and degrees; so as to produce all the infinite variety among the winds, which we observe in nature. These are so numerous and diversified, as actually to baffle all attempts at explanation or arrangement; we shall therefore content ourselves with one instance only, by way of illustration, viz., *the sea and land breezes*.

The explanation of what are denominated the sea and land breezes is very obvious; and is not less applicable to many similar phenomena. During the day, the surface of the land acquiring heat, imparts its temperature to the incumbent air. This air expanding in bulk becomes specifically lighter, and rises in consequence; while the cooler air from the surrounding sea rushes in to supply its place, and thus