

produces the current called the *sea breeze*. During the night, on the contrary, the waters of the ocean part with their heat much more slowly than the land, and the reverse action, or the *land breeze* takes place. In hot climates near the sea shore, and in insular situations, these alternations constitute a most agreeable variety.

2. *Of the Presence of Water in the Atmosphere.*—In the foregoing section, we have endeavoured to give an outline of those beautiful provisions, which by means of the air of the atmosphere, have been adopted to prevent the consequences necessarily arising from the unequal distribution of heat and light over the globe. We now come to another subject of not less importance, viz., the phenomena depending on the existence of water in the atmosphere; and which, taken together, principally constitute what we emphatically denominate *the Weather*.

The phenomena depending on the existence of water in the atmosphere may be considered under the four following points of view:—First, *Of the phenomena of evaporation and condensation; and of the general dependance of vapour on temperature*:—Secondly, *Of the conditions of an atmosphere of vapour alone; and of a mixed atmosphere of vapour and air*:—Thirdly, *Of the general relations of evaporation and condensation,*