

than any other cause whatever, is in some way concerned with the phenomena of atmospheric electricity. See Appendix.

The *Aurora borealis* is a phenomenon supposed to have some connection with electricity; though its precise nature is involved in considerable obscurity. The phenomenon evidently indicates currents of some kind; and if the light be electrical, we can only suppose such electrical currents to take place in an imperfectly conducting medium. That is to say; if the phenomenon, as some contend, exist in the lower regions of the atmosphere; luminous electrical currents can be produced only by water in the liquid state: if the phenomenon exist in the higher regions of the atmosphere, as at present is supposed; such currents may depend upon the extreme tenuity of the atmosphere in these higher regions. Our own opinion is, that at different times, the *aurora borealis* exists at different heights in the atmosphere, and consequently may depend upon both these causes.

*The phenomena depending upon the decomposition, refraction, and reflection of light by the vapour of the atmosphere* are not less striking and important, than those produced by electricity. To such effects upon light by the atmospheric vapour, we owe not only the cærulean tint of the sky, and all the splendid colouring of the clouds; but the beneficial morning and evening