

pend its evaporation and diffusion through the atmosphere—its subsequent condensation, not at once in the form of water or of ice, but in the intermediate state of clouds—its colour and lightness when in the state of snow—its power of refracting light and of conducting electricity—in short, all the numerous, minute, and happily contrived qualities displayed by this highly elaborated fluid? These qualities together, form such a union of adaptations and arrangements, each most successively accomplishing a particular purpose, and apparently directed to, and designed for, that purpose; that to doubt the agency of design would seem impossible. Yet some men's minds are so warped, that they either cannot, or will not, be persuaded of the existence of design; but asserting the omnipotence of the laws of nature, they forget Him who framed these laws, and are reluctant to give credence to His being, or to His power. To such persons, Meteorology offers one or two exclusive arguments, which, at the risk of being accused of tediousness, and unnecessary repetition, we shall urge briefly in this place.

The great Author of Nature, as we have before said, has chosen to act agreeably to certain established laws, by which he is invariably guided. Some of these laws we are able more or less to comprehend; and we can refer them to more general principles. Others are beyond