

SECTION I.

Of the Distribution of Plants over the Earth.

FROM what has been stated, it will be readily understood that Soil and Climate are the two great and immediate causes, by which vegetable and animal existence are likely to be affected. We shall, therefore, in the first place, take a view,

1. *Of the Differences of Vegetation, as liable to be influenced by Soil, and by other minor Local Circumstances, in the same Climate.*—The most incurious observer, in travelling through a country, must be struck with the different vegetation that prevails in different parts of the country; and with the effect which this difference produces on the manners and on the health of the inhabitants. Thus, in some parts of England, the *Apple* and the *Pear* are seen growing spontaneously in every hedge-row; while, in other parts, apple and pear trees will not flourish, even with the utmost care. Some situations are favourable to the *Oak*, others to the *Beech*, others to the *Elm*. Accordingly, these well-known and beautiful