

conspicuous his wisdom, his power, and his goodness.

2. *Of the Influence of Climate on Vegetation.*

—The climate of a place, as has been before shown, independently of minor local causes, is influenced chiefly by the two following circumstances:—the Latitude of the place; in other words, the general portion of heat and light which it receives from the sun;—and its Height above the surface of the sea; by which circumstance of elevation, the heat received from the sun, is liable to be at least as much varied, as by latitude; but the variation is according to other laws than those which depend on mere latitude; indeed, according to laws which vary in different latitudes.

Every one is acquainted with the general fact of the difference between the plants of warm and those of cold countries; between the plants that grow on plains, and those that grow on mountains. Thus, “in the countries lying near the Equator, the vegetation consists of dense forests of leafy *evergreen trees*, *Palms*, and *arborescent Ferns*, among which are intermingled *epiphytal herbs*, and *rigid Grasses*. There are no verdant meadows, such as form the chief beauty of our northern climate; and the lower orders of vegetation, such as *Mosses*, *Fungi*, and *Confervæ* are very rare. As we recede from the Equator, the