

predominance of moisture, from its occasional and sudden abstraction, induces the opposite feeling of dulness and listlessness. It is probable that some soils and situations are more favourable than others to its existence, and that places are more or less healthy according as it is present or absent.

The oxygen and vapour in this combination are so feebly associated, that they appear to be separated by the slightest cause. Hence the results of every *common* analysis and examination of air, are the same nearly as if such a state of combination did not exist. We may mention, however, as corroborative of our opinion, the bleaching qualities of dew, and of the air itself; as also the large proportion of oxygen sometimes contained in snow water and in rain water; attention being at the same time directed to the well known bleaching qualities of the deutoxide of hydrogen.

Much more might be said on this curious subject, especially regarding its relation to the *electricity* of the atmosphere. But we desist for the present; as the difficulties attending an investigation of the atmosphere, and more than all, the total want of opportunity, have rendered us unable satisfactorily to verify the opinion we have advanced; which opinion therefore, is to be understood as conjectural only; and as stated with the view of drawing the attention of those more fortunately situated, to so important an inquiry.

*Page 374.*—The table follows, illustrating the distribution of plants over the globe, to which we have referred in the text. It has been copied immediately from Lindley's Introduction to Botany.