

is daily going on, has a surprising effect on the general aspect of nature. The soil becomes drier and more compact, and a beautiful vegetation clothes those plains which were lately sheeted over with water. But when the day is sultry, and the earth is much heated by the sun, an offensive odour is at times evolved from the surface of the ground. In no country does nature, indeed, appear to be more lavish of existence. The woods abound with musquitoes: the earth swarms with innumerable tribes of insects; and the loose vegetable mould, when exposed to view, exhibits many forms of organized life, not only passing into being, but undergoing a putrescent revolution. The sun, thus operating on a humid soil, and completing the decomposition of so great a mass of organized matter, tends to the production of those diseases by which men, whose constitutions have not been assimilated to the climate, are always liable to suffer. It is truly remarkable, that the insalubrity of the air, in all warm countries, should be