

wind that blows over them, is less intensely cold, than that which passes over land in the same high latitudes. But in America the land stretches from the St. Lawrence towards the pole, and spreads out immensely to the west. The wind in passing over enormous mountains covered with snow and ice, becomes so impregnated with cold that it acquires a piercing keenness; so that over the whole continent of North America a northwestwardly wind and cold are synonymous terms. This difference in heat is supposed by the author of "*Recherches sur les Américains*," to be equal to 12 degrees. Dr. Mitchell contends that it is equal to fourteen or fifteen degrees, but if he alluded to the Eastern States, the climate is essentially altered since he wrote on the subject, for nine or ten degrees is now admitted to be a fair comparative difference.

The ground in Nova Scotia is generally covered with snow from the twenty-fifth of December to the fifth of March, during which time the farmers draw upon sleds their wood and poles from the forest, and carry their produce to market. The relative proportion of snow to water may be ascertained by means of a long cylinder, closed at one end, and immersed in snow until it reach the surface of the ground. It will thus contain a column of snow equal to the depth that has fallen, and on being dissolved will shew the quantity of water to which it is equal. It is difficult to say when spring commences, as it is rather late and irregular in its approaches, partly owing to the quantity of snow retained in the woods by the spruce and other evergreens long after it has disappeared from the cleared land, and partly from the influence of the ice which at this season passes the coast. But when vegetation commences, it is very rapid, and sometimes two or three days make a very perceptible change in the verdure of the foliage. The summer heat is moderate and regular, and by no means intense, there seldom being more than a week of very warm weather. The autumns are peculiarly fine. The temperature in the middle of the day is similar to that of May, moderated by a fine clear elastic healthy air, which gives a great cheerfulness to the spirits. This weather continues sometimes until the first of December as in 1822, with this change only, that as the season advances, the air becomes cooler at morning and evening. At mid-day the sun is warm, but the breeze being generally from