

of viewing the Almighty Creator in His works. The selections are made chiefly from marine botany, zoology, meteorology, the fisheries, the varying aspects of island and coast scenery, incidents of navigation, &c., arranged (if such a word be not inapplicable) in the order of geographical distribution; as they might be supposed to present themselves to the notice of an observant voyager.

It may be thought that the Author has touched too frequently, or dwelt with too great prolixity, on objects minute in themselves, and by the generality of persons considered insignificant and unworthy of regard. If apology for this be necessary, he presents it in the words of Samuel Purchas:—
“Nicostratus in *Ælian*, finding a curious piece of wood, and being wondered at by one, and asked what pleasure he could take to stand, as he did, still gazing on the picture, answered, ‘Hadst thou mine eyes, my friend, thou wouldst not wonder, but rather be ravished, as I am, at the inimitable art of this rare and admirable piece.’ I am sure no picture can express so much wonder and excellency as the smallest insect, but we want Nicostratus his eyes to behold them.

“And the praise of God’s wisdom and power lies asleep and dead in every creature, until man actuate and enliven it. I cannot, therefore, altogether con-