

*ADDITIONS and Corrections to the Article,
Of Seas and Lakes, vol. i. p. 290.*

I.

Of the Limits of the South Sea.

THE South Sea is much broader than the Atlantic, and appears to be bounded by two chains of mountains, which correspond as far as the Equator. The first chain is composed of the mountains of California, of New Mexico, of the Isthmus of Panama, of the Cordeliers, of Peru, of Chili, &c. The other chain stretches through Kamtschatka, Yesso, and Japan, and extends as far as the Larron islands, and even the New Philippines. The direction of these chains of mountains, which appear to be the ancient limits of the Pacific Ocean, is precisely from north to south; so that the Old Continent was bounded on the east by one of these chains of mountains, and the New Continent by the other. Their separation happened at the period when the waters, proceeding from the south pole, began to run between these two chains

of mountains, which seem to unite, or at least to make a very near approach to each other towards the northern regions. This is not the only indication of the ancient union of the two continents on the north. This continuity of the two continents between Kamtschatka and the most western lands of America, seems now to be proved by the new discoveries of navigators, who have found, under the same parallel of latitude, a great number of islands lying so near each other, as to leave only small intervals of sea between the east of Asia and the west of America under the Polar Circle.

II.

*Of double Currents in some Parts of the Ocean,
vol. i. p. 313.*

I Had too generally and too positively asserted, that, in no part of the sea, a superior and inferior current are to be found.

I have since received information, which seems to prove, that this effect actually exists, and can even be demonstrated, in certain parts of the sea. On this subject, M. Deslandes, an able navigator, obligingly communicated to me the following accurate remarks, in two letters, the