

ADDITIONS to the Article, Of Irregular Winds, Water-spouts, &c. vol. i. p. 386.

I.

Of the Violence of the South Winds in some Northern Countries.

THE Russian voyagers have remarked, that, in the entry to the territory of Milim, there is, on the left of the river Lena, a great plain entirely covered with overturned trees, and that all these trees lie in a direction from south to north for an extent of several leagues; so that the whole district, formerly covered with trees, is now strewn with dead trunks in the above direction from south to north. This effect of the south winds has likewise been observed in other northern regions.

In Greenland, and particularly in the autumn, the winds are so impetuous, that the houses are often shaken to pieces, and the boats and tents carried up into the air. The Greenlanders even assure us, that, when they go out to secure their boats, they are obliged to creep on their bellies,

bellies, lest they should become the sport of the winds. The most violent tempests come from the south, turn to the north, and then terminate in a calm. It is on these occasions that the ice in the bays is raised from its bed, and dispersed in small portions over the ocean*.

II.

Of Water-Spouts.

M. De la Nux, whom I have often quoted, and who lived forty years in the isle of Bourbon, has had an opportunity of seeing a great number of water-spouts, and he has communicated to me his observations, of which the following is an abridgment:

The water-spouts observed by M. de la Nux were formed, 1. In calm days, and in those intervals when the wind passes from the south to the north; though he saw one, which was formed previous to this passage of the wind from one quarter to another, and even in the current of a north wind, *i. e.* a pretty long time before this wind had ceased: The cloud from which this water-spout depended, and to which it was attached, was still violently driven to the south.

* Hist. Gen. des Voyages, tom. xviii. p. 22.