

to this hypothesis, that the earth has continued to decline from its original heat, and that the race of negroes are more ancient than that of white people?

GENERAL VIEWS OF NATURE.

FIRST VIEW.

NATURE is that system of laws established by the Creator for regulating the existence of bodies and the succession of beings. Nature is therefore not a body, for if it were so, it would comprehend every thing; neither is it a being, for in that case it would necessarily be God. We must rather consider Nature as an immense living power, which is in subordination to the Supreme Being, and by his command animates the universe, and whose actions are dependent on, and continued by, his concurrence or consent. This power is that part of Divine omnipotence which is manifested to mankind ;