

wants. Celidono informed them that he had been at the Port (Valparaiso) only once in five years. He seems to have all that is needful. His wife was engaged in spinning with the distaff and spindle. There being but one room, they were accommodated on the clay floor, spread with their pillions and saddle-cloths, while Celidono and his wife occupied the bed. The temperature varied from $65\cdot30^{\circ}$ on their arrival, at 5^h 30^m, to 53° , at 11 P. M.

On the morning of the 24th, the thermometer stood at 51° , on the summit of the *cuesta*, and at 58° between nine and ten o'clock. Here the scene was very different from what they had before witnessed. The plain they had just left was in broad sunshine, showing distinctly its many cultivated farms; that to which they were about descending was a sea of dense white clouds, extending seaward as far as the eye could reach, as though a vast body of white cumuli had descended and filled the whole extent of the Quillota valley. These clouds kept rolling off towards the sea, before the light wind, and rose gradually as they passed off. They reached Mr. Blanchard's, at Quillota, at noon, when the temperature was 60° , and taking their *biloche*, they arrived at Valparaiso in the evening.

Having heard much about the rise of the coast, from the effects of earthquakes, I was desirous of gaining all the information in relation to this subject. From the residents, the accounts are so contradictory, that no correct intelligence can be obtained. The decrease in the depth of the bay, I have before said, can be accounted for, and undoubtedly is owing, so far as it has taken place, to the wash of the hills; and the formation of a new street which has been reclaimed from the bay, has given rise to the idea, and it is pointed out as having been built upon ground left dry by the earthquake of 1832. Several of our naturalists made a close examination of the coast in the neighbourhood, the result of which on the minds of all was, that there was no proof of elevation. That changes in the beaches, through the agency of the heavy rollers and the northers that yearly occur, are constantly going on, is quite evident; but these, as one would naturally suppose, increase the shore only in some places, while in others they are wearing it away.

Earthquakes do not appear to happen at any particular season. The great one of 1730 was in July; that of 1751, in May; and those of 1822 and 1835, both of which did much damage, in February.

Slight shocks of earthquakes are experienced very frequently throughout Chili. One during our stay, on the 28th of May, started every one from their beds, but the shock was not repeated. No peculiar state of the weather, or other phenomenon, seems to precede them. That of