waters which filter by the clefts of the stratified rock, that from the effect of an hydrostatic pressure, fresh water springs far from the coast, and amidst salt water. The jurisdiction of the Havannah is not the most fertile part of the island; and the few sugar-plantations that existed in the vicinity of the capital, are now converted into farms for cattle, (potreros), and fields of maize and forage, of which the profits are considerable. The agriculturists of the island of Cuba distinguish two kinds of earth, often mixed together like the squares of a draught-board, black earth (negra o prieta) clayey and full of moisture, and red earth (bermeja), more silicious, and containing oxide of iron. The *tierra negra* is generally preferred (on account of its best preserving humidity), for the cultivation of the sugar-cane, and the *tierra bermeja* for coffee; but many sugar plantations are established on the red soil.

The climate of the Havannah is in accordance with the extreme limits of the torrid zone: it is a tropical climate, in which a more unequal distribution of heat at different parts of the year, denotes the passage to the climates of the temperate zone. Calcutta (lat. 22° 34′ N.) Canton (lat. 23° 8′ N.) Macao (lat. 22° 12′ N.), the Havannah (lat. 23° 9′ N.), and Rio Janeiro (lat. 22° 54′ S.) are places which, from their position, at the level of the ocean, near the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, consequently at an equal distance from the equator, afford great facilities for the study of meteorology. This study can only advance by the determination of certain numerical elements, which are the indispensable basis of the laws we seek to discover. The aspect of vegetation being identical near the limits of the torrid zone, and at the equator, we are accustomed to confound vaguely the climates of two zones comprized between 0° and 10°, and between 15° and 23° of latitude. The region of palm-trees, bananas, and aborescent gramina, extends far beyond the two tropics: but it would be dangerous to apply what has been observed at the extremity of the tropical zone, to what may take place in the plains near the equator. In order to rectify those errors, it is important that the mean temperature of the year and months be well known, as also the thermometric oscillations in different seasons at the parallel of the