

passing between the clouds and the earth ; and the thunder is nothing more than the explosion, with its echoes.

Thunder and lightning bear the same relation to each other, as the flash and the report of a cannon ; and by the space of time which occurs between them in both cases, their distance from a particular spot may be known, reckoning 1142 feet for every second of time.

48. *Tides*.—The tides are the alternate flux and reflux of the sea, which generally takes place every six hours. The tides are occasioned by the united action, exercised by the moon and sun, upon the earth and its waters.

OUTLINES OF GEOGRAPHY.

THE circumference of the globe is 360 degrees ; each degree containing 69 and a twelfth miles English, or 60 geographical miles : and it is divided into four great divisions ; *Europe, Asia, Africa, and America*.

The figure of the earth is that of a globe or ball, the circumference of which, or a line surrounding its surface, measures about twenty-five thousand miles : the diameter, or a line drawn through the centre, from one side to the other, is nearly eight thousand miles. The surface is a vast body of land and water.

The parts of LAND are continents, islands, peninsulas, isthmuses, promontories, capes, coasts, and mountains.

A CONTINENT is a large portion of land, containing several regions of kingdoms, which are not entirely separated by seas ; as Europe, Asia, Africa, and America.

AN ISLAND is a tract of land surrounded by water ; as Great Britain, Ireland, and Iceland.

A PENINSULA is a tract of land surrounded by water, except at one narrow neck, by which it joins to the neighbouring continent ; as the Morea, in Greece ; the Crimea, in Tartary.

AN ISTHMUS is that neck of land which joins a peninsula to the continent ; as Corinth, in Greece ; and Precop, in Tartary.

A PROMONTORY is an elevated point of land, stretching itself into the sea, the end of which is called a CAPE ; as the Cape of Good Hope, and Cape de Verd, in Africa ; and Cape Horn in South America.

MOUNTAINS are elevated portions of land, towering above