the action of these two powers seems sufficiently to account for the oscillatory motions of the molecules, and takes away all idea of any spontaneity. With regard to the Infusories, this has been most satisfactorily established in a former part of this chapter,* and this clearly proves their animal nature, as do their modes of motion, &c.† but when we recollect that they abound in vegetable infusions, and that the more vegetables are macerated, and as it were decomposed, the more numerous are the animalcula that they appear to give out when infused, it would be nothing extraordinary either that they should be mistaken for moving molecules, or moving molecules for them. Further, we may observe a kind of analogy between the spherical Infusories and the Molecules, and between the filiform ones transversely annulated with a vermicular motion, and the fibrils of Mr. Brown.

Another law of nature seems to result from the experiments of this acute naturalist—that all bodies, whether organized or inorganized, are formed, as fibrin is in the animal kingdom, by spherical molecules made, as it were, into necklaces, and then adhering in bundles, and that these are the substratum of all substance. In fluids the spherules are not united, and so have free motion *inter se*.

NOTE 22, p. 203.—*Several of them, for it is not common to them all, when touched, cause a sensation similar to that produced by the sting of a nettle.* Aristotle mentions a marine animal, under the name of *Acalephē*,‡ and another, if it be not the same, under that of *Cnidē*,§ both of which words, according to the Greek lexicographers, are used to

* See above, p. 164. † Ibid. 166.

‡ Gr. Ακαληφη, Aulus Gellius (Noct. Att. l. iv. c. 11.) writes it Ακαλυφη.

§ Gr. Κνιδη.