

(22) *Titanium*, and (23) *Columbium*, the next eight substances, are metals, for the most part obtained by elaborate processes, from rare mineral productions. The most important, as well perhaps as the most abundant, of these substances, is chromium; the compounds of which, from the splendour of their colours, have been lately much employed in the arts. Like selenium, arsenic, and antimony, these metals all combine with oxygen, &c. and form compounds, possessing many of the characters of acids. It may be remarked of all these substances, that at present their use in the economy of nature is quite unknown to us.

*Of Alkalifiable Bases.*—The next thirty-one bodies have been denominated by Dr. Thomson *alkalifiable bases*; from their property of forming compounds partaking more or less, of the character of those of the first subdivision, or family, termed *alkalies*. Dr. Thomson has subdivided the alkalifiable bases into five families, the designations given to which, sufficiently mark their character—viz. the *alkaline bases*; the *earthy bases*; the *difficultly fusible bases*; the *easily fusible bases*; and the *noble metals*.

*Of the Alkaline Bases.*—(24) *Potassium*, and (25) *Sodium*, are the metallic bases of the two well-known alkaline substances, *potash* and *soda*; which are compounds of these metals with