*chemically* with the molecule of oxalic acid; and thus completes the molecule of the acid, as it actually exists in the crystalline form.

Such are the views we have been induced to take of the nature of chemical combination: whether right or wrong, they have the merit of being exceedingly simple, and consistent with themselves, thoughout; which can hardly be said of any others, with which we are acquainted. Indeed much reflection upon the subject, for many years past, has satisfied us, that chemical combinations can be rationally explained only, in some such manner as we have supposed. Any lengthened argument, however, on the laws of chemical combination here, would be quite out of place; we shall therefore confine ourselves to the following observations.

First. The above view of the molecular constitution of bodies, naturally suggests the question: do the sub-molecules, which we suppose to unite together cohesively, and form the self-repulsive molecule, of oxygen and hydrogen, for instance, possess the same properties, as those of oxygen and hydrogen? or do they possess different properties? These questions, in most instances, cannot, in the present state of our knowledge, be satisfactorily answered; though there is every reason to believe that the properties, both of the sub-molecule, and of the super-molecule, generally differ from those of