

expect, that these incidental matters may have the power of modifying the arrangement of the constituent molecules; and thus of altering the sensible properties of the substance produced by their combination.

We have stated our opinion, that the molecules of incidental matters in organic substances are in a state of self-repulsion. This opinion is founded principally, on the equal diffusion of these incidental molecules throughout the organic substances in which they exist; and on their consequent great distance from each other, which, perhaps, can hardly be otherwise explained. If these incidental matters were detached, or merely in a state of mixture with the constituent elements, as is implied in the notion of their being foreign; they would probably retain their self-attractive powers; and instead of being equally diffused among the constituent elements, they would be collected together into a mass or crystal; an arrangement never observed. For, though crystallized bodies are found, not unfrequently, within organized substances; yet these bodies are always extraneous, and do not form any part of the living structure; of which, the molecules under our consideration do actually appear to be integrants. In further corroboration of this opinion, may be adduced the beautiful experiments of Sir John Herschel, who has shown, that an enormous