

nor, is the removal of dead animal matter the only good accomplished, but many other important results are obtained. To enter upon the consideration of these, would be foreign to our present object. There is, however, one consequence of this system of universal voracity, which more immediately concerns us, since it is of a nature so comprehensive, as to suggest a natural classification of alimentary substances: we allude to the similarity of composition among the staminal principles which constitute the fabric of organized beings.

In our introductory remarks on the chemistry of organization, we showed that organized matters, however apparently dissimilar, yet, chemically speaking, are often nearly related. Of this relation we gave as an example, the composition of the extensive class of substances, denominated the *saccharine group*; all which substances, notwithstanding the endless diversity of their appearance, are essentially alike in their composition, and consist of carbon associated with water. Saccharine substances are chiefly obtained from vegetables; sugar being the characteristic staminal principle of the vegetable kingdom.

Another well known class of bodies, existing both in vegetables and in animals, are those whose character is *oily*. Oleaginous bodies occur in an infinite variety of forms, some being solid,