

in alcohol, which is the *weakest* condition of the oily principle ; the weight of the modifying supermolecule of water is more than half that of the olefiant gas, and alcohol is perfectly soluble in water.

Gelatinous and albuminous substances, also, exhibit precisely the same variations. The *strong* tenacious glue, employed in the arts, is made from the firmer parts of the hides of old animals ; while the gelatinous size, or weak glue, is made from the skins of younger and more delicate animals. These two varieties of glue differ from one another, in the weights of the modifying supermolecules of water which enter into their composition. In general, it may be observed, that the substances composing the frame of old and of young animals, differ chiefly in the weights of their modifying supermolecules of water ; and that the dissimilarity of their properties, is chiefly owing to this difference.

If the reader has clearly apprehended, and will bear in mind, the principles which have now been stated, as regulating the chemical constitution of organized bodies, and the modes in which organized bodies are influenced by their modifying constituent, water ; he will be able to accompany us in the observations we are about to offer ; and he will thus, more especially, be able to form a general conception of the *chemical* operations of the stomach.