

larizing forces consist of the forces of gravitation in a state of separation, (if we may be allowed the expression,) or do they result from the motion of the molecules upon their axes? Such questions are quite beyond our powers,—indeed we have nothing at present to do with them,—our object here, being merely to point out the apparent limits, within which the Deity has chosen to confine his operations.

SECTION IV.

Of the Liquid Form of Bodies. Of Heat.

HITHERTO we have spoken of the aggregation of molecules in the solid form only; we have next to consider their arrangement in that state in which they constitute a liquid. Our notion of a fluid, generally speaking, is, that all its parts, or molecules, instead of being fixed, are perfectly movable among one another; our notion of a liquid (the least perfect form of fluidity) is, that its molecules are not only movable, but incompressible. Now, still retaining water as our example of a liquid; let us consider what must happen to its molecules situated, as we supposed them to be, in the form of ice; before they can be so arranged as to constitute the