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repulsive intensity may be imagined to cause the molecules to turn round on their common points of cohesion, M, m, till the chemical axes, E e, and E e, become at right angles to each other; as is represented in Fig. 13; or rather as



in Fig. 14. In Fig. 14, a view is supposed through the two molecules, in the direction

of the conjoined diameters of cohesion, Mm, and Mm, of Fig. 13; in which view, of course, E e, and E e, are supposed to represent the chemical axes of the two molecules, at right angles to each other. We may therefore conceive, that in the liquid state of bodies, the chemical axes of their adjoining molecules are at right angles to each other; or in some position, intermediate to right angles and that of parallelism. When the chemical axes of adjoining molecules are precisely at right angles, the chemical polarities, and the cohesive attractions, are both exactly balanced and neutralized; so that the points M, and m, have neither a tendency to unite, nor to separate; but remain simply in contact. Hence the molecules of such a body will be all disassociated, and free to move among one another; and if we suppose each molecule, at the same time, to be surrounded by its atmosphere of caloric, so thin as not altogether to