

Such are the principal phenomena connected with the motion of heat; but before we proceed to speak of the *sources* of this wonderful agent, we have yet to consider another imponderable principle of the utmost importance, and intimately connected with heat; viz. *Light*.

## SECTION VII.

### *Of Light.*

THE laws of the motion of light, of its reflection, refraction, polarization, &c., properly belong to another department; we shall, therefore, only briefly describe them here, and endeavour to point out the general connexion and analogy they bear to the phenomena of chemistry; and more especially, to the phenomena of heat and of electricity.

*Radiation, or Motion, of Light.*—Light radiates or moves in straight lines with such inconceivable velocity, that it occupies only about eight minutes in travelling from the sun to our earth; so that it must move at the rate of nearly 200,000 miles in a second! At the same rate it would occupy about four hours to travel to us from the planet Uranus, the present *ultima Thule* of our system; hence if this planet were at any given instant suddenly annihilated, we should not miss it for four hours afterwards; and when we look at it, we do not see it where it actually