

## CHAPTER IV.

OF CHEMICAL ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES, AND OF  
THE LAWS OF THEIR COMBINATION.

IN the preceding chapter we have endeavoured to show, that the minutest fragment of homogeneous matter cognizable by our senses, is composed of innumerable molecules; all of which are exactly alike in size, in shape, in properties, in short, of every kind; and we argued that these facts incontestibly prove, that the molecules of matter could not always have existed in their present form; nor have been formed by chance; but that they must have had a beginning; and have been the work of a Creator. Now when we consider the prodigious quantity of matter composing our globe, (to go no further,) or even composing a portion of it, as for instance, the mass of water existing in the ocean; and reflect that every individual molecule of this water possesses properties, exactly like those of the drop we formerly contemplated; our argument, already sufficiently convincing, actually overwhelms us with its force. Still however it admits of further corroboration; and we proceed