

properties accommodates his future labours! The whole therefore, of the complicated and beautiful apparatus, connected with the respiration of animals, is most obviously designed and constructed, with reference to the properties of the oxygen of the atmosphere; and altogether, this apparatus affords one of the most striking instances of adaptation and design, presented to us in nature.

(2) *Chlorine*, in its elementary state is a gas, having all the mechanical properties of common air; but in this form it never occurs naturally. It exists however in great abundance in a state of combination, from which it may be readily obtained by easy chemical processes. One of the most abundant sources of chlorine is *common salt*; into which it enters in the proportion, of about 60 per cent. As compared with oxygen, chlorine is much less abundant and perhaps important; yet it is doubtful, if without chlorine, the present order of things could proceed. Take for example the familiar instance of common salt, above referred to. Let us consider the universal diffusion of this substance throughout nature—what the sea would be; or how animals could exist, without it; let us consider these, and the numberless other operations, which this valuable compound more or less enters into, or influences; and we shall be able to form some notion of the part, chlorine bears in the economy