

we shall only remark, that a great many curious circumstances, at present but very imperfectly understood, evidently appear to be referrible to a similar principle.

Secondly. Although we have thus rendered it probable, that the molecules of bodies considered at present as elementary, are immediately compounded of many others, more or less resembling them; yet it is obvious, that there must be a point at which these, and other elements, exist in a primary or ultimate form; and beyond which, if they can be supposed to be subdivided, they must become something altogether different. In this respect, therefore, the views we have advanced, accord generally with those at present entertained; and the only point in which they differ, is in supposing, that the self-repulsive molecule, as it exists in the gaseous form, does not represent the ultimate molecule; but is composed of many of them. With respect to the nature of the ultimate sub-molecules of those bodies, which we consider at present as elements, as, for instance, of oxygen; they may naturally be supposed to possess the most intense properties, or polarities. Indeed, such sub-molecules may be imagined to resemble in some degree, the imponderable matters, heat, &c., not only by their extreme tenuity, but in other characters also; and this very intensity of