

crystal of oxalic acid before referred to, are incapable of separate existence: if they could exist separately, would they assume the form of water?

Fourthly. It would not be difficult, though not very safe, or prudent, in the present state of our knowledge, to speculate on the crystalline forms assumed by different bodies, with reference to the principles we have advanced. We shall therefore not touch upon this part of the subject, further than by observing, that the cohesive force, though supposed to possess some peculiarity, as existing *among the molecules of different bodies*, is nevertheless essentially but of *one* kind. When therefore, the molecules of different bodies are of the same size, (or rather of the same weight,) they may be naturally supposed capable of associating themselves into the same form; and if they happen to be mixed together, they may even enter indiscriminately into the same crystal. Hence arises what has been termed the *isomorphism* of bodies; while if there be a near approximation, but not an exact coincidence in the above relations, they may, upon the same principles, be supposed to give origin to *plesiomorphism*; that is to say, to a near approach to a similarity of form.

Fifthly. With respect to the nature of the circumstances which determine the characters, and modes of existence of bodies, we know very little. We are almost equally ignorant also, of