

altogether different from the results which are produced, under exactly similar circumstances, by inorganic agency. If however the arguments we have advanced be well founded, this notion must be erroneous; and its erroneous character will be rendered still more evident, by the observations, we shall, in the second place, offer, regarding the principles on which the operations within living organized bodies are really conducted.

The means by which organic agents accomplish the purposes for which they are designed, may be naturally divided into two kinds; those which are dependent on *peculiarity of composition and of structure*; and those by which *this peculiarity of composition and of structure is produced*.

Enquiry into the *first* of these means of action has already been in a great degree anticipated. A brief recital, therefore, is all that is here necessary. We have seen that organized substances are composed of the same elements, which exist abundantly throughout the world in the inorganized state; moreover, that these elements are subject to all the influences and agencies of inorganic nature. We have seen that organic agents are enabled to form certain proximate principles, by variously combining these elements; which proximate principles, even when in the condition of crystals, it is not