

ments of matter be wonderful ; yet more wonderful are those agents within organized bodies, by which they are directed. With the intimate nature indeed of these agents, we have not the remotest acquaintance, nor, probably, ever shall have. But, as has been already stated, we can trace, to a certain extent, the laws of action which organic agents obey : we observe the unvarying adaptation of these agents to the properties of carbon, azote, and water, on which they chiefly act ; their power, within certain limits, of guiding and controlling inorganic agents ; and more than all, that mysterious periodic development and decay, which every organized being undergoes. These facts which continually present themselves to our notice, are totally inexplicable according to those laws by which inorganic bodies are governed ; and are referrible only, to an order of laws, which have not been revealed.

Lastly, we cannot close this chapter, without pointing out to the reader a very remarkable contrast, in the two classes of objects which have engaged our attention. The number and diversity of organic agents appear to be endless ; in the creation, therefore, of these agents, the Great Author of Nature has chosen to manifest his attribute of infinity. But in the creation of the material elements which compose the frame of organized beings, He has adopted a plan directly