of the water may frequently be removed, without destroying the essential properties of the compound. Now, a very large number of organized bodies, (perhaps all those to which our present enquiry relates) contain water in both these forms; both as an essential element, and as an accidental ingredient; and in most instances, it is impossible to discriminate between the water which is essential, and that which is accidental. The mode of union, however, among the elements of bodies, in these two states of their combination with water, must be altogether different. Wherein the difference consists, is very imperfectly known; but, from the explanation we shall now offer, the reader will more fully understand the nature of these two modes of union: perhaps some light may even be thrown on the cause of their difference.

In the first part of this volume, we stated that the molecular, or combining, weights of carbon and of water are, by chemists, usually considered to be represented by the numbers 6 and 9; the weight of hydrogen being *one*. We also advanced the opinion, that the molecules or atoms of carbon and of water, where more than one exist, instead of remaining separate, as is now supposed, are associated together into groups, or supermolecules; and that carbon, water, and similar bodies, always enter into combination, not as single molecules, but as one supermole-