

that sugar be converted into oil ; it is probable that the sugar passes through precisely the same series of changes, it undergoes, out of the body, during its conversion into alcohol. We cannot trace the conversion of sugar into albumen ; because we are ignorant of the relative composition, and of the laws which regulate the changes, of these two substances. The origin of the azote in the albumen, is likewise at present unknown to us ; though in all ordinary cases, it seems to be appropriated from some external source. That the oleaginous principle may be converted into most, if not into all the matters necessary for the existence of animal bodies, seems to be proved by the well-known fact, that the life of an animal may be prolonged, by the absorption of the oleaginous matter contained within its own body. Thus, many hybernating animals, when they retire in autumn, to sleep during the winter, are enormously fat. But while they sleep, their fat is gradually removed ; till they awake in the spring quite divested of it, and in a state of inanition.

The reader will have remarked that we have made use of the term *ordinary circumstances* ; and perhaps it may be not amiss to explain what meaning we attach to that term.

When an animal is duly fed according to that diet which is natural to it, and for which its organization has been adapted ; a regular and