

that science to explain phenomena, for the explanation of which, chemistry, as we have said, is totally valueless. Such perversion of the reasoning powers, has too much prevailed among physiologists in all ages. In the earlier ages, heat was considered the principle of life. In later times, electricity has been discovered; and to electricity, the same functions have been ascribed. Life, according to other philosophers, is motion. But the progress of science has dispelled all these illusions: the origin of the obscure and evanescent principle of life, must be sought elsewhere. By heat, for example, many wonderful things may be accomplished; but heat will not act of itself. The powers of electricity are still more wonderful than the powers of heat: but electricity, we know to be governed, in its mode of action, by certain laws; and we know that electricity gives no sign of intelligence. In the same manner, life, as we are acquainted with it, cannot exist without motion; but motion can exist without life. Life and motion, consequently, are not synonymous terms; nor can we conceive the existence of motion, without a mover. In short, the living principle, as we have already shown, is something different from, and superadded to the common agencies of matter; over which, to a certain extent, it has a control. Thus, the