

phases, though they undoubtedly shine by reflected light, we may gather that they have no claim to be considered as solid bodies, but have in all probability the condition of the lightest vapour."

Now I am in great hopes that should my theory of the purposes of the comets reach Mr. Arago's eye, he will agree, that as vast masses of vapour must be formed by the combustion of the gases, that these masses must be attracted by the comets, and the formation of their tails be the natural consequence.

The great author of the "Cosmos" says, in page 106, 1st vol., "The little knowledge which we yet possess of the physical qualities of the comets, renders it difficult to separate the essential from the accidental in phenomena recurring at intervals, and which have been observed with more or less accuracy." And happy I should be, if our present theory of these bodies should, in the opinion of that profound philosopher, throw a new light on this important subject.

We have now to conclude this Sixth, and probably the last, Edition of our work. We humbly conceive we have, from natural results of our System of the Creation, shewn a high degree of probability of what it may be the purpose of the nebulae and cometary bodies to produce in the stupendous scale of the universe of the Almighty, either by laws established by Him, or by His-immediate and unceasing agency; and we have now only to present these efforts to the calm consideration of a candid and intelligent public, and more especially to the enlightened minds of scientific men, being well convinced that the greater their zeal for the advancement of science, and the greater their powers therein, the more favourably they will receive our humble attempts to advance the study and the knowledge of it.