

earth; yet, such is the tenuity of its substance, that in 1795, Sir Wm. Herschell was able to discover through its mass a star of the 20th magnitude. It must be an *embryo Planet, not yet reduced from vapor to a liquid globose volume, afterwards to be converted into an ocean and earth, and organic formations.*"

Here, then, is a complete confirmation (as far as the opinion and judgment of Mr. Arago will go with men of science) of the theory of the possible formation of our ocean, earth, and organic formations which we have in this work ventured to present to the world. Mr. Arago is one of the leading astronomers of the present day.

We have now to inquire in what way, and by what laws, the Creator produced, from these waters, all the solid parts of our earth? To form the ground-work of our reasoning on this subject, we shall advert to, and consider attentively, the accounts of the geologists of the marine strata and productions found in the bowels of the earth, and the experiments and opinions of some eminent chemists upon the nature and products of the processes of vegetation.

"The levels," says Cuvier, one of the most eminent geologists of the present day, "on which marine productions are now found, are far above the level of the ocean, and at heights to which the sea could not reach by the action of any known cause. Every part of the earth, every continent, and every island, exhibits the same phenomenon. The traces of revolution become more apparent, when we ascend a little higher, and approach nearer to the great chains of mountains. Beds of shells