

which resists the motion of comets, and is loaded with the materials of the tails of millions of them which may be slowly subsiding into the sun." These materials must of course be gaseous; now the combustion of gaseous matter is nothing but the union of the base of the gas with that of oxygen gas, without which no combustion takes place, and the consequent extrication of the light and heat of this oxygen gas, by which we conclude, as per our theory, the waste of the sun's light and heat is replenished.

Accordingly Sir John, in another part of his work, states his opinion, that there is "an enormous heat in the sun."—Dr. Herschell, his late father, says, that the sun's luminous atmosphere is only 2,500 miles from the sun's surface.—That these admitted facts can be reconciled with his opinion of the sun being opaque and habitable, when under the influence of such enormous quantities of light and heat, appears to me totally contrary to all possibility.

In addition to these sanctions of the existence of an æriform medium in the regions of infinite space, we have the great satisfaction to refer the reader to our extract from Dr. Graham's Elements of Chemistry of last year, where he will find, that, from recent experiments of one of the most celebrated opticians and philosophers of the present day, Sir David Brewster, he concludes that the "sun's atmosphere must contain gaseous matter."

Several explanatory additions are made in the body of this edition, to which we ask leave to refer the reader, particularly to the elucidation of the theory of the formation of the earth.

We now present the third edition of this work to the public of United Canada, trusting that the System of Creation we had attempted to form will receive a considerable degree of sanction from the scientific authorities, discoveries, and observations we have now enlarged it with, and that it may be found to meet the approbation of scientific men of the present, and also serve as an instructive book for the rising generation.

MONTREAL, 1842.

THE AUTHOR.