ciples of the atmosphere are occasionally associated, so as to form compounds; and that these compounds, acting as foreign bodies, materially influence evaporation. See Appendix.

Of the accidental circumstances which influence condensation.—The condensation of vapour from the atmosphere, as we have already stated, differs in some degree, according to the origin of that diminished temperature by which the condensation is produced. We shall, therefore, commence with those phenomena of the precipitation of moisture from the atmosphere, which depend on the *radiation* of heat from the earth's surface into space. The most remarkable of these phenomena are *Dew*, *Hoar Frost*, and certain forms of *Mist*.

Of Dew.—The phenomena of dew were first satisfactorily explained by the late Dr. Wells; who showed by the most decisive experiments, that, apparently, all these phenomena were owing to the effects of the radiation of heat from the earth's surface, during the absence of the sun. The reader is referred to Dr. Wells' "*Essay on Dew*," for details. It is sufficient for our present purpose to observe, that when the direct influence of the sun is removed in the evening, and the surface of the earth thus no longer continues to acquire heat; at that instant, from the ceaseless activity of heat to maintain a state of equilibrium, the surface of the earth,