

from the body by the lungs, than in any other manner. Hence the probability of the opinion formerly noticed, that the matters taken up by the absorbents, and by the veins, enter successively into the formation of various parts of the animal frame; instead of being removed, immediately after their absorption, as at present is generally supposed. For it seems hardly possible, to reconcile, with the quantity of food, the great quantity of carbon that is expelled from the lungs alone; much less, what must be expelled, if all the matter taken up by the absorbents be likewise considered excrementitious.

4. *Of Secretion.*—From the blood, are formed, by means of peculiar apparatus, all those numerous products termed *Secretions*; not only so unlike each other, but so unlike the fluid from which they are separated. Some of these secreted products appear to be little else, than a disengagement of certain matters already existing in the blood. Other secretions have no resemblance to any ingredient of the blood: consequently, in the glandular structure, by which these secretions, so dissimilar to the blood, are formed, the blood must undergo some essential change. In the present state of our information, however, we must content ourselves with a limited insight into the nature and the causes of secretory action. We see that se-