

“ lection des corps dont les molleculles integrantes
 “ sont semblables, et composés des memes elements
 “ unie en memie proportion.” This integral molle-
 cule or kernel is detected, either by mechanical di-
 vision, or by measurement combined with calcula-
 tion; and when found, is asserted to afford an inva-
 riable essential character for the species. I cannot,
 however, subscribe to this opinion; on the contrary,
 I venture to affirm, that it is not, in any instance, the
 type of the species, and that it only makes us ac-
 quainted with peculiarities in the structure of a few
 crystallized minerals, peculiarities which may indeed
 be afterwards discovered in other specifically distinct
 minerals. That it affords no essential characters is
 evident, because different species, as diamond and
 spinelle have the same integral molleculle; and other
 minerals, as zeolite, that unquestionably belong to
 the same species, have different integral molle-
 cules. That it makes us acquainted with peculi-
 arities in the structure of but a few crystallized
 minerals is shewn, 1. From the impossibility of de-
 tecting the integral molleculle by calculation com-
 bined with measurement, therefore all the species as-
 certained by this method are to be expunged from
 the system*. 2. From many species having the same
 integral molleculle; and individuals of the same spe-
 cies having different molleculles. Thus it appears
 that its existence as a peculiarity, remains but to a few
 species.

* Patrin. Dict. Hist. Nat.

That