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CHAP. V.

FARTHER ELUCIDATIONS OF THE PROOFS BROUGHT FORWARD, AND OF THE THEORY RESULTING FROM THEM; AND A REFUTATION OF SOME OBJECTIONS MADE AGAINST IT.

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§ 53.

IN order to form a more correct idea of the theory which has been given in the two preceding chapters, on the *formation of the cavities now occupied by veins*, we must keep it in remembrance, that several rents constituting the spaces in which veins are now found, were larger than at present, and have been since contracted; that others have become larger and larger, perhaps during the very time they were filling up; that the greater number of the old rents were already filled up, and consequently shut, at the time new ones, either having the direction of the old ones,

ones,