## XV. Electrodynamic Measurements. By Professor WILHELM WEBER.—Sixth Memoir, relating specially to the Principle of the Conservation of Energy.

[Concluded from p. 20.]

# 8. On the Movement of two Electrical Particles in consequence of their action on each other.

THE fundamental electrical law determines the action exerted by any given particle upon another under any circum-The simplest and most obvious application that can stances. be made of this law, would seem to be to develope the laws of the motion of two particles which act mutually upon each other. Greater practical interest, however, attached to the determination, in the first place, of the laws of the distribution of electricity at rest upon conductors, and of the laws of the forces exerted by a current of electricity in a closed conductor, by reason of the current existing in another conductor, upon this latter conductor itself-as well as to the development of the laws of the (electromotive) forces exerted by closed currents (or by magnets) on the electricity in closed conductors-inasmuch as the results of these developments admitted of being directly tested and confirmed by experiment. But although this important practical interest is wanting to the development of the laws of motion of two particles subject only to their mutual action, many of its results cannot fail to merit attention in other respects.

The interest which belongs to these results relates indeed specially to the molecular movements of two particles, movements which are shut out from all direct experimental investigation, so that there is no authority for the application to them of the law that has been established, so far as it is regarded as an experi-Consequently the development of the laws of the mental law. molecular movements of two particles in accordance with the law that has been established must be considered only as an attempt to find a clue to the theory (which as yet we are entirely without) of these movements-a clue which by itself is certainly not sufficient, but is still in need of being supplemented in essential respects. For so long as the molecular forces acting only at molecular distances, which doubtless cooperate in the molecular movements, are not known and taken exact account of, the results that may be acquired cannot have any exact quantitative application, but only a qualitative value within certain limits, and can be of consequence only for a first reconnaissance of the territory.

# 9. Motion of two Electrical Particles in the direction of the straight line which joins them.

For two particles, e, e', moving simply in consequence of their

mutual action, we have, according to the fundamental laws of Section 4, by putting

$$\rho = 2\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{ee'}{cc}, \quad x = \frac{1}{2}\frac{\epsilon\epsilon'}{\epsilon + \epsilon'}\cdot\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}, \quad a = \frac{1}{2}\frac{\epsilon\epsilon'}{\epsilon + \epsilon'}\cdot cc$$

and also giving a negative sign to U and V, so as to denote thereby the *potentials*,

$$V: U = 2\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{ee'}{cc}: r$$
$$-U + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\epsilon\epsilon'}{\epsilon+\epsilon'}\cdot\frac{dr^2}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2}\frac{\epsilon\epsilon'}{\epsilon+\epsilon'}\cdot cc;$$

and therefore

$$\mathbf{V} = \frac{2}{r} \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'} \right) \frac{ee'}{cc} \cdot \mathbf{U} = \frac{ee'}{r} \left( \frac{1}{cc} \cdot \frac{dr^2}{dt^2} - 1 \right).$$

If there is no motion of rotation of the particles about each other in space,  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr}$  is the acceleration of the particle e in the direction of r, and  $\frac{1}{\epsilon'} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr}$  is the acceleration of the particle e' in the opposite direction. Hence the relative acceleration of the two particles becomes

$$\frac{ddr}{dt^2} = \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) \frac{dV}{dr};$$

and from this, by integrating between the limits  $r=r_0$  and r=r( $r_0$  denoting the value of r for the moment when  $\frac{dr}{dt}=u=0$ ), since  $\rho$  was made  $=2\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}+\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{ee'}{cc}$ , we obtain

$$\frac{dr^2}{dt^2} = uu = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \cdot \frac{\rho}{r_0} \cdot cc.$$

 $\frac{\rho}{r_0}$  has always a positive or negative value differing from nothing; for  $\rho = 2\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{ee'}{cc}$  has a given finite although very small value, which is positive or negative according as ee' is positive or negative; and  $r_0 = \frac{r}{r + \frac{uu}{cc} \cdot \frac{r - \rho}{\rho}}$  has also a positive or nega-

tive value differing from nothing, since the initial values of r and uu, by which  $r_0$  is to be determined, must be considered as *positive measurable quantities* to be determined by experiment.

When  $\frac{\rho}{r_0}$  is positive because both numerator and denominator are positive, all the movements are confined to the distances outside the interval  $\rho r_0$ , and are divisible into movements at a distance and molecular movements which are separated from each other by the interval  $\rho r_0$ .

But if  $\frac{\rho}{r_0}$  is positive because numerator and denominator are both negative, the movements extend to all possible distances, since the interval  $\rho r_0$  then lies outside all possible distances.

When  $\frac{\rho}{r_0}$  is negative, in which case the interval  $\rho r_0$  lies partly outside and partly within the possible distances, all the movements are confined to the part of the interval  $\rho r_0$  lying within possible distances; and if  $\rho$  is positive and  $r_0$  negative, they are molecular movements.

From this it follows, when  $\rho$  and  $r_0$  are positive, that, in the first place, no transition from movements at a distance to molecular movements takes place; secondly, that uu always remains less than cc, if it was smaller at first; and thirdly, that when uu is less than cc, r and  $r_0$  are (both at once) either greater or less than  $\rho$ .

If we keep merely to experience, some of these relative movements of the two particles may be left entirely out of account, for it is evident that infinitely great relative velocities are never met with in reality; on the contrary,  $\frac{1}{cc} \cdot \frac{dr^2}{dt^2}$  is almost always to be considered a very small fraction.

This limitation, derived from the nature of things, is also tacitly assumed when  $V = \frac{ee'}{r} \left(\frac{1}{cc} \cdot \frac{dr^2}{dt^2} - 1\right)$  is taken as the *potential*, since this must be =0 for an infinitely great value of r. For if  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}$  were infinitely great, the expression  $\frac{ee'}{r} \left(\frac{1}{cc} \cdot \frac{dr^2}{dt^2} - 1\right)$  might have a value differing from nothing even for infinitely great values of r.

But if the value of  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}$  is never infinitely great, there must be a finite value which  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}$  never exceeds. We may assume *cc* as such a value.

Presupposing this limitation of the relative velocities,  $r_0$  is always positive; and for every value of  $r_0$  there exists only a single, always continuous series of corresponding values of r and  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}$ ; and

when  $\rho$  is positive and  $r_0$  is  $>\rho$ ,

the corresponding values of r and  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}$  extend from  $r=r_0$  to  $r=\infty$ and from  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}=0$  to  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}=\frac{\rho}{r_0}$ . The movements are in this case movements at a distance.

If  $\rho$  is positive and  $r_0 < \rho$ , or if  $\rho$  is negative,

the corresponding values extend from  $r=r_0$  to r=0, and from  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}=0$  to  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}=cc$ . In the first case, when  $\rho$  is positive and  $r_0 < \rho$ , and likewise in the second case, when  $\rho$  is negative and  $r_0 < \rho$ , the movements are molecular movements; but if, in the second case,  $r_0$  is  $> \rho$ , the movements are partly movements at a distance and partly molecular movements.

Hence, with the above limitation of the movements, we obtain for two particles *e*, *e'*, moving solely in consequence of their reciprocal action, if there is no motion of rotation of the particles about each other in space, the following equation of motion, namely,

$$\frac{uu}{cc} = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \cdot \frac{\rho}{r_0},$$

in which u is put  $=\frac{dr}{dt}$ , and where  $\rho$  has a value that is given by the particles e, e', their masses  $\epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon'$ , and the constant c, and  $r_0$ denotes a constant to be determined, according to this very equation, by the initial value of r (which must be positive and not equal to  $\rho$ , but otherwise may be any thing whatever) and the initial value of uu (which must be positive and less than cc, but otherwise may be any thing whatever).

# 10. Two states of aggregation of a system of two particles of the same kind.

For two like particles the value of  $\rho$  is positive. And since, moreover, for every value of r the relative velocity u may have two equal but opposite values, the value of r may, in accordance with the above equation  $\frac{uu}{ce} = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \cdot \frac{\rho}{r_0}$ , either at first decrease from  $r = \infty$  to  $r = r_0$ , u at the same time

increasing from 
$$u = -c \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{r_0}}$$
 to  $u = 0$ , and afterwards

- r may increase again from  $r=r_0$  to  $r=\infty$ , u at the same time increasing from u=0 to  $u=+c\sqrt{\frac{\rho}{r_0}}$ ;
- or  $r \max at$  first decrease from  $r=r_0$  to r=0, u at the same time decreasing from u=0 to u=-c, and then afterwards  $r \max increase from r=0$  to  $r=r_0$ , u at the same time decreasing from u=+c to u=0.

It is easily seen that in the *first* case the motion is not a reverting one; for, after the distance r has diminished from any given value to  $r_0$ , it increases again without limit; that is, it never decreases again. In the *latter* case, on the other hand, the motion is reverting, for the distance r alternately diminishes from  $r_0$  to 0 and increases again from 0 to  $r_0$ .

There seems indeed to be a sudden change in the value of the velocity u from -c to +c at the moment when r=0; but no sudden change occurs in reality; for, when r vanishes, -c denotes the same velocity as +c does when r is increasing again from zero.

These two cases of motion are moreover distinguished from each other by the fact that *no transition* takes place from one to the other; for, according to the above equation, such a transition, in the case of the interval  $\rho r_0$  or  $r_0\rho$  could only occur by *u* taking imaginary values.

Now upon this separateness of the two kinds of motion a distinction may be founded between *two states of aggregation of a* system of two similar particles—that is, between a state of aggregation in which the particles can only move at a distance from each other, and a state of aggregation in which they can take part only in molecular movements. A transition from the one state of aggregation to the other cannot take place so long as both particles move in consequence of their reciprocal action only.

It only remains to be noted further, that it has been here presupposed that the two particles, considered in space, possessed no motion except in the direction of r; but in the next section the opposite case will be considered.

# 11. Motion of two Electrical Particles which move in space with different velocities, in directions at right angles to the straight line joining them.

Let  $\alpha$  denote the difference of the two velocities which two electrical particles e and e', at a distance r from each other, possess in space in a direction perpendicular to the straight line rwhich joins them; then  $\frac{\alpha \alpha}{r}$  denotes the part of the relative acceleration  $\frac{du}{dt}$  which depends upon  $\alpha$ . If we deduct this part  $\frac{\alpha \alpha}{r}$  from the total acceleration  $\frac{du}{dt}$ , the difference  $\left(\frac{du}{dt} - \frac{\alpha \alpha}{r}\right)$  expresses that part of the relative acceleration of the two particles which results from the forces exerted by them upon each other. According to section 9 this latter part was  $=\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{dV}{dr}$ ; and hence we obtain the following equation,

$$\frac{du}{dt} - \frac{\alpha \alpha}{r} = \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) \frac{dV}{dr}.$$

Multiplying this equation by udt = dr, we get

$$udu - \alpha \alpha \frac{dr}{r} = \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) \cdot \frac{dV}{dr} dr;$$

and hence, by integrating from the instant at which u=0, the value of r corresponding to this instant being denoted by  $r_0$ ,

$$\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)(V - V_0) = \frac{1}{2}uu - \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau} \frac{aa}{r} dr$$

in which  $V = \frac{ee'}{r} \left(\frac{uu}{cc} - 1\right)$  and  $V_0 = -\frac{ee'}{r_0}$ , but where, in order to perform the last integration,  $\alpha\alpha$  must be represented as a function of r.

Now  $r \cdot adt$  is the element of surface described by the line connecting the two repelling or attracting particles while they move about each other for the element of time dt; and for equal elements of time dt this superficial element retains always the same value, whence  $radt = r_0 \alpha_0 dt$ . Introducing the resulting value

$$\alpha \alpha = r_0 r_0 \alpha_0 \alpha_0 \cdot \frac{1}{rr}$$

in the last member of the above equation, and carrying out the integration, we obtain the following equation,

$$2\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}+\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{ee'}{cc}\left(\frac{r-r_0}{rr_0}+\frac{1}{r}\cdot\frac{uu}{cc}\right)=\frac{uu}{cc}+\frac{\alpha_0\alpha_0}{cc}\cdot\frac{r_0r_0-rr}{rr};$$

from which, by putting  $2\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{ee'}{cc} = \rho$ , the equation of motion

$$\frac{uu}{cc} = \frac{r - r_0}{r - \rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r + r_0}{r} \cdot \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \right)$$

is obtained. Putting this value of  $\frac{uu}{cc}$  into the equation

$$\mathbf{V} = \frac{ee'}{r} \left( \frac{uu}{cc} - 1 \right),$$

we get

$$V = \frac{ee'}{r} \left( \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r+r_0}{r} \cdot \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \right) - 1 \right),$$
  
$$\frac{dV}{dr} = \frac{ee'}{r} \cdot \frac{r_0 - \rho}{(r-\rho)^2} - \frac{ee'}{(r-\rho)^2} \left( 1 - \left( 3 - 2\frac{\rho}{r} \right) \frac{r_0 r_0}{rr} \right) \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc}.$$
  
12.

According to the last section, there exists an equation between the relative velocity u and the relative distance r of two particles moving anyhow *in space* under the action of their reciprocal forces, namely the equation

$$\frac{uu}{cc} = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r+r_0}{r} \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \right),$$

in which  $\rho$  denotes a constant that is *positive* for two *similar* particles, and *negative* for two *dissimilar* particles.

Now from this there follow results relative to the free motions of two particles in space, which move, under the influence of their own reciprocal action, with unequal velocities in a direction perpendicular to the straight line joining them, quite similar to those arrived at in relation to the motions considered in section 10 in the direction of the straight line r. There results, in fact, in this case also, a distinction between two states of aggregation for two similar particles-namely, a state of aggregation in which the two particles move in such a way as to return periodically into the same position relatively to each other, and a state of aggregation in which the two particles move so as to become always more and more distant from each other and never return to the same position. No transition from one state of aggregation to the other takes place so long as the two particles move only under the influence of their own reciprocal forces.

#### 13.

A rotation of the two particles about each other implies the existence of a certain *attracting force* if the two particles are to remain at a constant distance from each other during this rotation; and this attracting force required for the rotation increases, for the same distance, according to the square of velocity of rotation. According to this, one would expect that, for two *similar* electrical particles at a distance  $r_0 < \rho$  (at which they attract each

other), there would be always a certain velocity of rotation  $\alpha_0$ for which the attracting force required by the rotation should be equal to the attracting force resulting from the reciprocal action of the two particles, so that the two particles rotating about each other would remain, for this velocity of rotation, at the same distance  $r_0$ . This, however, is not the case, since the attracting force resulting from the reciprocal action of the two particles depends not only upon the distance  $r_0$ , but also upon the velocity of rotation  $\alpha_0$ , and increases with the latter in such a manner that it always remains greater than the attracting force required by the rotation, so that with any such rotation there is always involved a mutual approach of the two particles.

It follows indeed easily that, in the case of two similar particles e and e', when  $\rho$  has a positive value and  $r=r_0$ , and consequently u=0, there is no value of  $\alpha_0$  for which  $\frac{du}{dt}=0$ , as must be the case if the two particles are to remain at an invariable distance  $r_0$ . For when  $r=r_0$ , it results from the equation at the end of section 11 that

$$\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dr} = \frac{ee'}{r_0(r_0 - \rho)} \left(1 + 2\frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc}\right);$$

and from this it further follows, since

$$\frac{du}{dt} - \frac{\alpha \alpha}{r} = \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{dV}{dr} = \frac{\rho}{2}\frac{cc}{cc'} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr},$$

that

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{cc}{r_0 - \rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + 2 \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \right),$$

whence  $\frac{du}{dt}$  can be equal to nothing only when

$$\alpha_0\alpha_0 = -\frac{1}{2}\frac{\rho}{r_0}cc,$$

which for a *positive* value of  $\rho$  (that is, when e and e' are of the same kind) is impossible.

It follows further that, in the case of two similar particles, if  $r=r_0$ ,  $\frac{du}{dt}$  is either positive or negative, according as  $r_0 > \rho$  or  $r_0 < \rho$ . Consequently the two particles separate always to a greater and greater distance from each other when  $r=r_0 > \rho$ , and approach always nearer to each other when  $r=r_0 < \rho$ , whatever value  $\alpha_0$  may have.

#### 14. On the Time of Oscillation of an Electrical Atomic Pair.

Two similar electrical particles at a distance  $r_0 < \rho$  from each other (at which their relative velocity =0) do not remain at this

distance, but approach each other from  $r=r_0$  to r=0 with a velocity which increases from u=0 to  $u=\sqrt{\left(cc+\frac{r_0r_0\alpha_0\alpha_0}{\rho}\cdot\frac{1}{r}\right)}$ —that is to say, becomes infinite, if the velocity of rotation  $\alpha_0$  differed from nothing for the instant at which  $r=r_0$ . From this it follows that the interval of time  $\Theta$  in which the two particles approach each other from the distance  $r=r_0$  to r=0 has a finite value. The fact that for the instant at which r becomes equal to 0 the value of the relative velocity of the two particles becomes

$$\sqrt{\left(cc+\frac{r_0r_0\alpha_0\alpha_0}{\rho}\cdot\frac{1}{r}\right)}=\pm\infty,$$

signifies here only that this relative velocity is to be henceforward taken as a velocity of separation  $= +\infty$ , whereas it was, up to this point, a velocity of approach  $= -\infty$ . This being premised, it easily follows that, in a second equal interval of time  $\Theta$ , the two particles will separate from each other again from the distance r=0 to the distance  $r=r_0$ . The interval of time  $2\Theta$ , in which the two particles approach each other with increasing velocity from the distance  $r=r_0$  to r=0 and then separate again from the distance r=0 to  $r=r_0$ , may be called the *time of oscillation* of the *atomic pair* formed of the two electrical particles.

There still remains the problem of determining the time of oscillation  $2\Theta$  of such an atomic pair.

This time of oscillation can be readily deduced from the equation

$$\frac{uu}{cc} = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r_0+r}{r} \cdot \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \right),$$

if it be assumed that therein  $r_0$  is not greater than  $\rho$ .

For if we first consider the limiting case in which  $r_0 = \rho$ , it follows from the above equation that

$$uu = cc + \alpha_0 \alpha_0 + \rho \alpha_0 \alpha_0 \cdot \frac{1}{r};$$

and hence, putting  $u = \frac{dr}{dt}$ ,

$$dt = -dr \sqrt{\frac{r}{\rho \alpha_0 \alpha_0 + (cc + \alpha_0 \alpha_0)r}}$$

From this we obtain, by integration,

$$\Theta = -\int_{\varrho}^{0} dr \sqrt{\frac{r}{\rho \alpha_{0} \alpha_{0} + (cc + \alpha_{0} \alpha^{0})r}}$$

Accordingly we get :---

$$\Theta = \frac{\rho}{cc + \alpha_0 \alpha_0} \sqrt{(cc + 2\alpha_0 \alpha_0)} \\ - \frac{\rho \alpha_0 \alpha_0}{(cc + \alpha_0 \alpha_0)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \log \left( \sqrt{\left(1 + \frac{cc}{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}\right)} + \sqrt{\left(2 + \frac{cc}{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}\right)} \right);$$

or, for small values of  $\frac{\alpha_0}{2}$ ,

$$\Theta = \frac{\rho}{c} \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \log \frac{2c}{\alpha_0} \right).$$

If we next confine ourselves to the consideration of small oscillations (that is to say, those for which  $\frac{r_0}{r_0}$  is very small), it results from the above equation, when  $r_0$  and r are taken as vanishingly small compared with  $\rho$ , that

$$uu = \frac{r_0 r_0 \alpha_0 \alpha_0}{\rho} \cdot \frac{1}{r} + cc - \left(\frac{cc}{r_0} + \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{\rho}\right) r;$$

whence, putting  $u = \frac{dr}{dt}$ ,

$$cdt = -dr \sqrt{\frac{r}{\frac{r_0 r_0 \alpha_0 \alpha_0}{\rho cc} + r - \left(\frac{1}{r_0} + \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{\rho cc}\right) rr}},$$

which leads to an elliptic integral. For vanishing values of  $\frac{\alpha_0}{c}$ , we obtain

$$cdt = -dr \sqrt{\frac{1}{1 - \frac{r}{r_0}}};$$

whence there comes, by integration,

$$\Theta = -\frac{1}{c} \int_{r_0}^{0} \frac{dr}{\sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{r}{r_0}\right)}} = \frac{2r_0}{c}$$

When, as has been assumed, r is  $< \rho$ ,  $r_0$  may be called the amplitude of oscillation; and it follows that, for small values of  $\frac{a_0}{2}$  and for small amplitudes of oscillation, the time of oscillation 2 $\Theta$  of an electrical atomic pair is proportional to the amplitude of oscillation  $r_0$ . But the factor with which  $r_0$  must be multiplied in order to give 2 $\Theta$ , though a constant  $=\frac{4}{c}$  for small amplitudes, diminishes for greater amplitudes, and becomes  $=\frac{2}{c}$  for the amplitude  $r = \rho$ .

If we put  $c = 439450 \cdot 10^6 \frac{\text{millimetre}}{\text{second}}$ , it follows from this last determination that the value of  $\rho$  must lie approximately between  $\frac{1}{4000}$  and  $\frac{1}{8000}$  of a millimetre in order that these oscillations may be equal in rapidity to those of light.

The difference of the electrical particles e, e' and of their masses  $\epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon'$  in the case of small values of  $\frac{\alpha_0}{c}$  and small amplitudes, does not affect the oscillations at all; and in the case of greater amplitudes it affects them only so far as the value of  $\rho$ depends upon it.

#### 15. Applicability to Chemical Atomic Groups.

The distinction between two or more states of aggregation of bodies, according as they consist of simple atoms, or of atomic pairs, or of groups of more than two atoms, has acquired great importance in relation to *chemistry*. Now one, and now another state of aggregation occurs; and in many chemical processes a transition takes place from one to another; but the intermediate states which occur in the case of such transition cannot exist permanently, and those states of aggregation are consequently completely separate from each other as *permanent states*.

Now it is obvious that the *permanence* of some atomic conditions, which are distinguished as special states of aggregation, and the *want of permanence* in all other atomic conditions, may have its cause in the laws of the reciprocal action of atoms—that is, in the difference between the forces exerted upon each other by atoms according to the different relations in which they may stand towards each other. The cause of the permanence of some atomic states and of the want of this permanence in others has not hitherto been recognized in the laws of the reciprocal action of atoms; and it would doubtless be difficult to succeed in discovering this cause in such laws of reciprocal action as it has hitherto been attempted to establish and to assume for ponderable atoms.

The question consequently presents itself, whether the cause of the permanence of certain atomic states may not perhaps be found in such laws of mutual action as have here been established and assumed for electrical particles. Hence the movements of two electrical particles under the influence of the reciprocal action assigned to them, which have been followed out in the preceding sections, are of interest in connexion with this point also, since in them a cause has been really discovered upon which the existence of such permanent states of aggregation may be founded. And in relation to this it is to be specially *Phil. Mag.* S. 4. Vol. 43. No. 284. Feb. 1872. K

#### 130 Prof. W. Weber on Electricity in relation to

observed that the same forces as those which determine the states of aggregation of electricity formed by simple atoms and by atomic pairs, may possibly also determine similar states of aggregation of ponderable bodies. For in the general distribution of electricity it must be assumed that an atom of electricity adheres to each ponderable atom. But if atoms of electricity adhere firmly to ponderable atoms, nothing will be altered in the relations of the electrical atoms except the masses which have to be moved by the forces acting on the electrical atoms. But in the preceding developments the masses are left undetermined, and are simply denoted by  $\epsilon$  and  $\epsilon'$ ; while the electrical particles themselves, to which the masses  $\epsilon$  and  $\epsilon'$  belong, are determined, without a knowledge of the values  $\epsilon$  and  $\epsilon'$ , by the measurable quantities e and e'. If now we take the values of  $\epsilon$ and  $\epsilon'$  so great as to include the masses of the ponderable atoms adhering to the electrical atoms, all the results that have been arrived at in reference first of all to *electrical atoms* merely, may also be applied to the ponderable atoms combined with the electrical stoms.

# 16. On the state of Aggregation and Oscillation of two dissimilar Electrical Particles.

In the case of two *dissimilar* electrical particles, the same equations hold good as in the case of two similar particles, namely those of section 11; that is to say,

$$\begin{split} & \frac{uu}{cc} = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r+r_0}{r} \cdot \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \right), \\ & \mathbf{V} = \frac{ee'}{r} \left[ \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r+r_0}{r} \cdot \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \right) - 1 \right], \\ & \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dr} = \frac{ee'}{(r-\rho)^2} \left[ \frac{r_0-\rho}{r_0} - \left( 1 - \frac{3r-2\rho}{r^3} \cdot r_0 r_0 \right) \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \right], \end{split}$$

where  $\rho = 2\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{ee}{cc}$ ; the only difference is, that when the particles are dissimilar  $\rho$  has a negative value, because the pro-

duct ee' is negative. Besides these equations we have also  $\alpha r = \alpha_0 r_0$  (since only such motions are considered as are made by two electrical particles under the action of their own reciprocal action), whence there follows, lastly, the equation

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\rho cc}{ee'} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr} + \frac{r_0 r_0 \alpha_0 \alpha_0}{r_3}.$$

Hence it results that, as in the case of two similar electrical par-

131

ticles, when  $r = r_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dr} &= \frac{ee'}{r_0(r_0 - \rho)} \Big( 1 + 2 \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \Big),\\ \frac{du}{dt} &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{cc}{r_0 - \rho} \Big( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + 2 \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \Big) \,; \end{aligned}$$

and that, when also  $\alpha_0 = \sqrt{-\frac{\rho cc}{2r_0}}$  (which has now a real value,

since  $-\rho = -2\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{ee'}{cc}$  is positive for dissimilar particles),  $\frac{du}{dt} = 0$ ; according to which, when  $r = r_0$  and  $\alpha_0 = \sqrt{-\frac{\rho cc}{2r_0}}$ , the two particles in their rotation about each other remain always at the same distance  $(=r_0)$  apart, a case which with two similar particles cannot occur at all.

It follows, however, further from the equation

$$\frac{uu}{cc} = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r+r_0}{r} \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} \right),$$

or, when we put *n* for the constant value  $-\frac{r_0 r_0 \alpha_0 \alpha_0}{\rho cc}$ , from the following equation,

$$-\frac{r-\rho}{\rho}\cdot\frac{uu}{cc}=\left(\frac{r}{r_0}-1\right)\cdot\left[n\left(\frac{1}{r_0}+\frac{1}{r}\right)-1\right],$$

that besides the value  $r=r_0$ , for which u=0 is given, there is in general also another value of r, namely  $\frac{nr_0}{r_0-n}$ , for which likewise u=0.

These two values of r, however, for which u=0, differ from each other sometimes to a greater and sometimes to a smaller extent, according to the value of n; and when  $n=\frac{r_0}{2}$  (that is to say, when  $a_0 = \sqrt{-\frac{\rho cc}{2r_0}}$ ), they coincide completely; and it is only when the two values of r for which u=0 coincide thus that the previously mentioned case occurs, for which we have at the same time u=0 and  $\frac{du}{dt}=0$ ; and consequently the two particles, while revolving round each other, remain at the same distance.

In all other cases in which the velocity u=0 (as, for example, when r=2n-x, where x < n) there is also a second value of r—in this case  $2n + \frac{nx}{n-x}$ , for which also the velocity u=0.  $\frac{du}{dt}$  has then a positive value for r=2n-x, but diminishes and becomes equal to nothing between r=2n-x and  $r=2n+\frac{nx}{n-x}$ ; so that, for  $r=2n+\frac{nx}{n-x}$ ,  $\frac{du}{dt}$  has a negative value. It is evident from this that repulsion of the two particles takes place from r=2n-x as far as the value of r for which  $\frac{du}{dt}=0$ , and attraction from this point as far as  $r=2n+\frac{nx}{n-x}$ , and consequently that the two particles must always remain in oscillatory motion relatively to each other within the indicated limits.

#### 17. On Ampère's Molecular Currents.

The molecular state of aggregation of two dissimilar electrical particles that has just been described, namely that in which the distance of the two particles alternately increases and diminishes between exactly defined limits and the path in which one particle moves about the other becomes a circular orbit at the two limits, is deserving of closer consideration, especially in those cases in which it is admissible to regard one of the particles as being at rest and the other particle as moving in a circle about the first.

The relation between the particles in respect of their participation in the motion depends upon the ratio of their masses  $\epsilon$ and  $\epsilon'$ ; and, according to section 15, the values of  $\epsilon$  and  $\epsilon'$  must include the masses of the ponderable atoms adhering to the electrical atoms. Let e be the positive electrical particle, and let the negative particle be equal and opposite to it, and let it therefore be denoted by -e (instead of by e'). Now let a ponderable atom adhere to the latter only, whereby its mass is so much increased that the mass of the positive particle becomes negligible in comparison. The particle -e may then be regarded as being at rest, and the particle +e alone as being in motion around the particle -e.

The two dissimilar particles, when in the molecular state of aggregation that has been described, consequently represent an *Ampèrian molecular current*; for it can be shown that they correspond completely to the assumptions which Ampère made in relation to the *molecular currents*.

In order to show this, let us develope the expression for the force which the moving particle e exerts upon any given element of a current. Let ds' denote the length of the given element of current, +e'ds' the positive, and -e'ds' the negative electricity which it contains; and, lastly, let u' denote the velocity of the positive particle +e'ds', and -u' the velocity of the negative

particle -e'ds'. Also, let r denote the distance of the element of current from the particle e, u the velocity of the particle e, x, y, z the coordinates of the particle e, x', y', z' the coordinates of the element of current,  $\Theta$  and  $\Theta'$  the angles which the directions of u and u' make with r, and  $\epsilon$  the angle between the directions of u and u'.

Next, let the general expression for the repelling force of two electrical particles e and e' at the distance r, namely

$$\frac{ee'}{rr}\Big(1-\frac{1}{cc}\cdot\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}+\frac{2r}{cc}\frac{ddr}{dt^2}\Big),$$

be transformed as follows (see Beer, Einleitung in die Elektrostatik, die Lehre vom Magnetismus und die Electrodynamik, S. 251). First, let the equation

$$rr = (x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2$$

be differentiated with respect to the time t; we then get

$$r\frac{dr}{dt} = (x - x')\left(\frac{dx}{dt} - \frac{dx'}{dt}\right) + (y - y')\left(\frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{dy'}{dt}\right) + (z - z')\left(\frac{dz}{dt} - \frac{dz'}{dt}\right),$$
  
or also

$$r\frac{dr}{dt} = r(u\cos\Theta - u'\cos\Theta').$$

By a second differentiation we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dr^2}{dt^2} + r\frac{ddr}{dt^2} &= \left(\frac{dx}{dt} - \frac{dx'}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{dy'}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dz}{dt} - \frac{dz'}{dt}\right)^2 \\ &+ (x - x')\left(\frac{ddx}{dt^2} - \frac{ddx'}{dt^2}\right) + (y - y')\left(\frac{ddy}{dt^2} - \frac{ddy'}{dt^2}\right) \\ &+ (z - z')\left(\frac{ddz}{dt^2} - \frac{ddz'}{dt^2}\right),\end{aligned}$$

wherein

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dt}-\frac{dx'}{dt}\right)^2+\left(\frac{dy}{dt}-\frac{dy'}{dt}\right)^2+\left(\frac{dz}{dt}-\frac{dz'}{dt}\right)^2=u^2+u'^2-2uu'\cos\epsilon.$$

If now the acceleration of the one particle, whose components are  $\frac{ddx}{dt^2}$ ,  $\frac{ddy}{dt^2}$ ,  $\frac{ddz}{dt^2}$ , be denoted by N, and the angle which its direction makes with r by  $\nu$ , and in like manner the acceleration of the other particle, whose components are  $\frac{ddx'}{dt^2}$ ,  $\frac{ddy'}{dt^2}$ ,  $\frac{ddz'}{dt^2}$ , by N', and the angle which its direction makes with r by  $\nu'$ , we obtain

$$\frac{x-x'}{r}\left(\frac{ddx}{dt^2}-\frac{ddx'}{dt^2}\right)+\frac{y-y'}{r}\left(\frac{ddy}{dt^2}-\frac{ddy'}{dt^2}\right)+\frac{z-z'}{r}\left(\frac{ddz}{dt^2}-\frac{ddz'}{dt^2}\right)$$
$$=\operatorname{N}\cos\nu-\operatorname{N}'\cos\nu'.$$

The substitution of these values gives

$$2 \frac{dr^2}{dt^2} + 2r \frac{ddr}{dt^2} = 2(u^2 + u'^2 - 2uu'\cos\epsilon) + 2r(N\cos\nu - N'\cos\nu'),$$
  

$$3 \frac{dr^2}{dt^2} = 3(u\cos\Theta - u'\cos\Theta)^2.$$

The second equation subtracted from the first gives

$$-\frac{dr^{2}}{dt^{2}} + 2r\frac{ddr}{dt^{2}} = 2(u^{2} + u'^{2} - 2uu'\cos\epsilon) - 3(u\cos\Theta - u'\cos\Theta')^{2} + 2r(N\cos\nu - N'\cos\nu'),$$

whence the general expression for the repelling force of two electrical particles e and e' at the distance r, namely

$$\frac{ee}{rr}\left(1-\frac{1}{cc}\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}+\frac{2d}{cc}\frac{dr}{dt^2}\right),$$

is obtained in the following transformed shape,

$$=\frac{ee'}{ccrr}\left[cc+2(u^2+u'^2-2uu'\cos\epsilon)-3(u\cos\Theta-u'\cos\Theta)^2+2r(N\cos\nu-N'\cos\nu')\right].$$

By substituting for the particle e' the positive electricity in the given element of current, namely +e'ds, this expression gives the repelling force

$$\frac{ee'ds'}{ccrr} [cc + 2(u^2 + u'^2 - 2uu'\cos\epsilon) - 3(u\cos\Theta - u'\cos\Theta')^2 + 2r(N\cos\nu - N'\cos\nu')];$$

but by putting for the particle e' the negative electricity in the given element of current, namely, -e'ds', we obtain the repelling force

$$\frac{ee'ds'}{ccrr} \left[ -cc - 2(u^2 + u'^2 + 2uu'\cos\epsilon) + 3(u\cos\Theta + u'\cos\Theta)^2 - 2r(N\cos\nu + N'\cos\nu') \right],$$

since in this case  $\epsilon + \pi$ ,  $\Theta' + \pi$ , and  $\nu' + \pi$  take the place of  $\epsilon$ ,  $\Theta'$ , and  $\nu'$ ; and these therefore give together the total repelling force between the moving particle e and the whole element of current, namely

$$\frac{4ee'ds'}{ccrr}(3uu'\cos\Theta\cos\Theta'-2uu'\cos\epsilon-rN'\cos\nu').$$

The repelling force between the stationary particle -e and the whole element of current, on the other hand, if r denotes the distance of the stationary particle -e from the given element of

current, is

$$+\frac{4ee'ds'}{ccrr}$$
. rN' cos v',

since in this case u=0. But the difference between the value given to r here and that assigned to it previously (namely the distance from the particle +e, in motion about the particle -e, to the given element of current), may be regarded as a negligible fraction of r, so that we get, for the repelling force exerted by the moving particle +e and stationary particle -e together upon the element of current, the expression

$$\frac{4ee'ds'}{ccrr} (3\cos\Theta\cos\Theta' - 2\cos\epsilon) \cdot uu'.$$

If we were to put in place of the moving electrical particle +ea second element of current, the positive electricity of which, moving with the velocity  $+\frac{1}{2}u$ , was denoted by +eds, and whose negative electricity, moving with the velocity  $-\frac{1}{2}u$ , was denoted by -eds, we should obtain for the mutual repelling force of the two elements of current the value

$$=\frac{4eds \cdot e'ds'}{ccrr}(3\cos\Theta\cos\Theta'-2\cos\epsilon') \cdot uu';$$

that is to say, the same expression as before, if the electrical particle previously denoted by +e (and moving with the velocity u) were taken as equal to the positive electricity contained in the second element of current, namely +eds (moving with the velocity  $\frac{1}{2}u$ ).

It follows from this that the rotatory motion of the electrical particle +e about the stationary particle -e replaces a circular double current, if the positive electricity contained in the latter is equal to +e and moves in its circular orbit with half the velocity of the aforesaid electrical particle +e, and if also the negative electricity contained in the current is equal to -e and moves with the same velocity as the positive electricity but in the opposite direction.

Hence it appears that an electrical particle +e moving in a circle about the electrical particle -e exerts upon all galvanic currents the same effects as those assumed by Ampère in the case of his molecular currents.

The molecular currents assumed by Ampère, however, differ essentially from all other galvanic currents in this respect, that, according to Ampère's assumption, they *continue* without electromotive force; whereas all other galvanic currents, in accordance with Ohm's law, are proportional to the electromotive force, and *cease* when the electromotive force vanishes. But it is evident that the electrical particle + e, spoken of above, must of its elf, without electromotive force, continue indefinitely its rotatory motion about the particle -e, and therefore must correspond entirely with the molecular currents assumed by Ampère in this respect also.

We accordingly obtain in this way, as a deduction from the laws of the molecular state of aggregation of two dissimilar electrical particles, developed in the preceding section, a simple construction for the molecular currents assumed by Ampère without proof that their existence was possible.

## 18. Movements of two dissimilar Particles in Space under the Action of an Electrical Segregating Force (Scheidungskraft).

If  $\pi + v$  denotes the angle which the direction of the electrical segregating force makes with r, and a denotes the magnitude of the relative acceleration of the two particles depending upon the segregating force,  $-a.\cos v$  and  $a.\sin v$  are the components of a,—the former expressing the part of the relative acceleration  $\frac{du}{dt}$  which is dependent on the segregating force, and the latter the part of  $\frac{da}{dt}$  which depends on the same force, where  $\alpha$  is the difference of the velocities of the two particles in a direction perpendicular to r. It is presupposed that the direction of the segregating force lies in the plane in which the two particles rotate about each other. If now the first component, namely  $-a.\cos v$ , as the part of  $\frac{du}{dt}$  which depends upon the segregating force, and also  $\frac{a\alpha}{r}$ ,

as the part of  $\frac{du}{dt}$  which depends upon the velocity  $\alpha$ , be deducted from the total acceleration  $\frac{du}{dt}$ , the difference

$$\left(\frac{du}{dt} + a \cdot \cos v - \frac{\alpha \alpha}{r}\right)$$

denotes the part of the relative acceleration which results from the force which the two particles e and e' exert upon each other, namely

$$\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}+\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\frac{dV}{dr}=\frac{\rho}{2}\frac{cc}{ee'}\cdot\frac{dV}{dr};$$

and hence the following equation is obtained :---

$$\frac{du}{dt} + a \cdot \cos v - \frac{\alpha \alpha}{r} = \frac{\rho}{2} \frac{cc}{ce^{t}} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr}$$

If we deduct the *last* component, namely  $a \cdot \sin v$ , as the part

of the acceleration  $\frac{d\alpha}{dt}$  which depends upon the segregating force, from the total value  $\frac{d\alpha}{dt}$ , the difference  $\left(\frac{d\alpha}{dt} - a \sin v\right)$  gives that part of the total acceleration  $\frac{d\alpha}{dt}$  which results from the existing motion under the sole influence of the forces exerted upon each other by the two particles. But, under the sole influence of the attracting or repelling forces exerted upon each other by the two particles, the element of surface  $\alpha r dt$ , described in a given element of time dt, would have a constant value, or we should have  $\alpha \frac{dr}{dt} + r \frac{d\alpha}{dt} = 0$ ; hence the resulting part of the acceleration  $\frac{d\alpha}{dt}$  becomes

$$-\frac{\alpha}{r}\frac{dr}{dt}$$
.

By equating this part with the above difference, we get the equation

$$\frac{d\alpha}{dt} - a\sin v = -\frac{\alpha}{r}\frac{dr}{dt}.$$

Besides these, we have, as is self-evident, a third equation,

$$dv = \frac{\alpha dt}{r}$$
.

Accordingly, for the four variable magnitudes r, u,  $\alpha$ , v, there are the following three equations :—

$$a\cos v - \frac{aa}{r} = \frac{\rho cc}{2ee'} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr} - \frac{du}{dt}, \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

$$a\sin v - \frac{\alpha dr}{rdt} = \frac{d\alpha}{dt}, \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (2)$$

$$dv = \frac{\alpha dt}{r}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

Multiplying equation (1) by dr = udt, and equation (2) by  $rdv = \alpha dt$ , we obtain

$$a\cos v \cdot dr - \frac{aadr}{r} = \frac{\rho cc}{2ee'} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr} dr - udu, \quad . \quad (4)$$

The difference of these two equations gives

$$a \cdot d(r\cos v) = \frac{\rho cc}{2ec'} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr} dr - \alpha d\alpha - u du. \qquad (6)$$

138 Prof. W. Weber on Electricity in relation to

We also get from (2) and (3),

$$-2ar^{3}. d(\cos v) = d(\alpha^{2}r^{2}). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

The integration of the differential equation (6) gives, after multiplying by 2 and putting  $V = \frac{ee'}{r} \left(\frac{uu}{cc} - 1\right)$ ,

$$2ar\cos v = \frac{\rho cc}{r} \left(\frac{uu}{cc} - 1\right) - \alpha \alpha - uu + \text{const.}; \quad . \quad (8)$$

and from this, since  $r=r_0$ ,  $\alpha = \alpha_0$ , and  $\cos v = -1$  when u=0, comes

$$-2ar_0 = -\frac{\rho cc}{r_0} - \alpha_0 \alpha_0 + \text{ const.} \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

Equation (9), subtracted from equation (8), gives

$$2ar\cos v + 2ar_0 = \left(\frac{\rho}{r} - 1\right)uu + \rho cc\left(\frac{1}{r_0} - \frac{1}{r}\right) - \alpha \alpha + \alpha_0 \alpha_0.$$
(10)

By integrating the differential equation (7) we obtain, after dividing by  $r^3$ ,

$$-2a\cos v = \frac{\alpha\alpha}{r} + 3\int \frac{\alpha\alpha dr}{rr},$$

or, multiplying by r,

$$-2ar\cos v = \alpha \alpha + 3r \int \frac{\alpha \alpha dr}{rr}, \quad . \quad . \quad (11)$$

and hence, for the sum of (10) and (11),

$$2ar_{0} = \left(\frac{\rho}{r} - 1\right)uu + \rho cc\left(\frac{1}{r_{0}} - \frac{1}{r}\right) + \alpha_{0}\alpha_{0} + 3r\int\frac{\alpha a dr}{rr},$$

and therefore

$$uu = \frac{1}{r-\rho} \left( \rho cc \left(\frac{r}{r_0} - 1\right) + r \alpha_0 \alpha_0 + 3rr \int \frac{\alpha \alpha dr}{rr} - 2ar_0 r \right).$$
(12)

From equation (3) there follows further, since dr = udt,

$$dv = \frac{\alpha}{u} \frac{dr}{r}; \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (13)$$

and since, by equation (7),

$$d(\cos v) = -\frac{d(\alpha^2 r^2)}{2ar^3},$$

and by equation (11),

$$\cos v = -\frac{1}{2\alpha} \left( \frac{\alpha \alpha}{r} + 3 \int \frac{\alpha^2 dr}{r^2} \right),$$

we get, by substituting these values in the identical equation

$$dv = -\frac{d(\cos v)}{\sqrt{(1-\cos v^2)}},$$

#### the Principle of the Conservation of Energy.

according to equation (13),

$$\frac{\frac{\alpha}{u}\frac{dr}{r}}{\frac{dr}{u}} = \frac{\frac{\frac{d(\alpha^2 r^2)}{2ar^3}}{\sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{1}{4a^2}\left(\frac{\alpha^2}{r} + 3\int\frac{\alpha^2 dr}{r^2}\right)^2\right)}};$$

and from this and equation (12),

$$uu = \left(\frac{\alpha r^2 dr}{d(\alpha^2 r^2)}\right)^2 \cdot \left(4a^2 - \left(\frac{\alpha^2}{r} + 3\int \frac{\alpha^2 dr}{r^2}\right)^2\right)$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{r - \rho} \left(\frac{r - r_0}{r_0}\rho c^2 + r(\alpha_0^2 - 2ar_0) + \rho r^2 \int \frac{\alpha^2 dr}{r^2}\right), \quad (14)$ 

or the following equation for the two variables r and  $\alpha$  :—

$$4a^{2} = \left(\frac{\alpha^{2}}{r} + 3\int \frac{\alpha^{2}dr}{r^{2}}\right)^{2} + \frac{4}{r-\rho} \left(\frac{d(\alpha r)}{dr}\right)^{2} \cdot \left(\frac{r-r_{0}}{r_{0}} \cdot \frac{\rho c^{2}}{r^{2}} + \frac{\alpha_{0}^{2} - 2ar_{0}}{r} + 3\int \frac{\alpha^{2}dr}{r^{2}}\right)^{*}.$$
 (15)

If we now confine ourselves to small values of a, for which  $\alpha r$  is not, indeed, constant, as it is for a=0, according to section 11, but for which it differs only little from a constant value  $\alpha_0 r_0 = n$ , we may put

$$\alpha r = n(1+\epsilon), \quad \ldots \quad \ldots \quad \ldots \quad (16)$$

where  $\epsilon$  has always a very small value. It then follows from this that

$$\frac{a^2}{r} = (1+2\epsilon)\frac{n^2}{r^3}, \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (17)$$

Further, by (11) and (17),

$$\int \frac{d\epsilon}{r^3} = -\frac{a}{n^2}\cos v,$$

\* If the segregating force a vanish,  $\alpha r$  must, according to section 11, assume a constant value. But for a constant value of  $\alpha r$  and for a=0, equation (15) reduces itself to

$$0 = \frac{\alpha^2}{r} + 3 \int \frac{\alpha^2 dr}{r^2} ;$$

and this, divided by the constant value  $\alpha^2 r^2$ , gives the identical equation

$$0 = \frac{1}{r^3} + 3\int \frac{dr}{r^4},$$

in accordance with section 11.

139

Prof. W. Weber on Electricity in relation to

140 or

$$d\epsilon = \frac{a}{n^2} r^3 \sin v dv ; \qquad \dots \qquad (19)$$

from (18) and (19),

$$\frac{d(\alpha r)}{dr} = \frac{a}{n} r^3 \sin v \cdot \frac{dv}{dr}; \qquad (20)$$

and from (17) and (19),

If we now substitute the values of  $\frac{d(\alpha r)}{dr}$  and  $\frac{\alpha^2}{r}$  given by (20) and (21) in the following equation resulting from (11) and (15), namely

$$a^2 \sin v^2$$

$$=\frac{1}{r-\rho}\cdot\left(\frac{d(\alpha r)}{dr}\right)^2\cdot\left(\frac{r-r_0}{r_0}\cdot\frac{\rho c^2}{r^2}+\frac{\alpha_0^2-2ar_0}{r}-\frac{\alpha^2}{r}-2a\cos v\right),(22)$$

we obtain, by again putting for n its value  $\alpha_0 r_0$ , the following equation between r and v, namely

$$\frac{\alpha_0^2 r_0^2}{r^4 c^2} \cdot \frac{dr^2}{dv^2} = \frac{r - r_0}{r - \rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r + r_0}{r} \cdot \frac{\alpha_0^2}{c^2} \right) - \frac{2a}{(r - \rho)c^2} \left( r_0 r + \frac{3}{r} \int r^2 \cos v dr \right)^*. \quad (23)$$

By differentiating this equation, after multiplying it by  $r(r-\rho)$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dr} \left( (r-\rho) \frac{\alpha_0^2 r_0^2}{r^3 c^2} \cdot \frac{dr^2}{dv^2} \right) &= \frac{\rho r}{r_0} + (r+r_0) \left( \frac{\alpha_0^2}{c^2} + (r-r_0) \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{\alpha_0^2}{c^2} \right) - \frac{2a}{c^2} (2r_0 r + 3r^2 \cos v). \end{aligned}$$

\* From the above equation, since  $\frac{r}{\alpha}u$  may be substituted for  $\frac{dr}{dv}$ , we obtain

$$\frac{a_0^2 r_0^2}{a^2 r^2} \cdot \frac{uu}{cc} = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r+r_0}{r} \cdot \frac{a_0^2}{c^2} \right) - \frac{2a}{(r-\rho)c^2} \right) \left( r_0 r + \frac{3}{r} \int r^2 \cos v dr \right),$$

which, when the segregating force a vanishes, and therefore, according to section 11,  $\alpha r = \alpha_0 r_0$ , passes over into the equation

$$\frac{uu}{cc} = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{r_0} + \frac{r+r_0}{r} \cdot \frac{\alpha_0^2}{c^2} \right) -$$

that is to say, into the same equation that was arrived at already for this case in section 11.

If we here put, to consider a special case,

$$\rho = -\frac{2r_0}{cc}(\alpha_0^2 + ar_0)$$

(that is to say, the case in which, for a=0, the two particles remain, according to section 16, at the same distance during their rotation), we obtain

$$\frac{d}{dr}\left((r-\rho)\frac{\alpha_0^2 r_0^2}{r^3 c^2} \cdot \frac{dr^2}{dv^2}\right) = -\frac{2(r-r_0)}{cc}(\alpha_0^2 + ar_0) - \frac{6ar}{cc}(r_0 + r\cos v),$$

which becomes =0, first, when u=0 and consequently  $r=r_0$ ,  $\alpha = \alpha_0$ , and  $\cos v = -1$ , and, secondly, when

$$r_0 - r = \frac{3ar(r_0 + r\cos v)}{\alpha_0^2 + ar_0},$$

a case which occurs for small values of a, if  $\cos v = +1$  and so  $r = r_0 - \frac{6ar_0^2}{a_0^2}$  approximately.

Hence it follows that, just as, according to section 16, one of two dissimilar electrical particles, for which  $\rho = -2r_0 \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc}$ , could move round the other in a circular orbit when not acted on by segregating force, so also when two dissimilar electrical particles, for which  $\rho = -2r_0 \left(\frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_0}{cc} + ar_0\right)$ , are acted on by a segregating force (=a), one of them can revolve about the other in a closed orbit, though the orbit is not circular. The distance between the particles varies, in fact, according as the moving particle lies before or behind the central particle considered relatively to the direction of the segregating force, being in the latter case  $=r_0$ ,

and in the former case 
$$=r_0 - 6 \frac{r_0 r_0}{\alpha_0 \alpha_0} a$$

Such an eccentrical position of the one particle in the plane of the orbit described (under the influence of a segregating force) by the other particle about this one, may be compared to the separation of electric fluids at rest under the influence of a similar segregating force; but the remarkable difference presents itself that the separation takes place in opposite directions in the two cases.

It follows from this, that in all conductors that have been charged in the usual way under the influence of a force of electrical segregation, the electricity cannot be contained only in the state of aggregation corresponding to Ampère's molecular currents, since in that case the resulting segregation would take

#### 142 Prof. W. Weber on Electricity in relation to

place in the opposite direction to that which actually does occur. But even if all the electricity in such a conductor existed in the form of Ampèrian molecular currents before the action of the segregating force began, there must have been amongst these molecular currents some which could not persist under the action of the segregating force (one particle continuing to revolve in a closed orbit round the other), and were accordingly broken up, the two particles separating more and more from each other until they arrived at the boundary of the conductor. Under the influence of the force of segregation, the positive and negative particles of the broken molecular currents could remain at rest only when distributed in a particular way on the surface of the conductor; but when the force of segregation ceased to act, they would enter into motion again until they had again united themselves two by two into Ampèrian molecular currents.

## 19. Electrical Currents in Conductors.

If all the electricity in conductors were contained in them (before a segregating force began to act) in the state of aggregation corresponding to Ampèrian molecular currents, which, however, were incapable of persisting under the action of a segregating force, but were broken up, so that the two dissimilar electrical particles, which were revolving about each other, separated further and further from each other, until their paths finally approached asymptotically the direction of the segregating force, dissimilar electrical particles derived from different molecular currents would encounter each other before they could reach the boundaries of the conductor, and would form with each other new molecular currents. These newly formed molecular currents would then in their turn be broken up, and the particles constituting them would again separate further and further from each other in paths asymptotically approaching the direction of the segregating force, and so on.

Thus there would arise a current of electricity in the conductor in the direction of the segregating force. If the conductor had the shape of a uniform ring, and if the segregating force had the same intensity in every separate element of length of the ring and acted in the direction of the element, a constant circular current would be produced in the ring, and the laws of motion of electrical particles under the action of a force of electrical segregation, developed in the previous section, would form the basis of the theory of these constant electrical currents in closed conductors.

Here it is evident that, during the existence of this current, work would be done by each particle, since it moves forward under the action of the segregating force in the direction of this

And since all the other forces which act upon such such force. a particle in a conductor must together balance each other, this work will make its appearance as an equivalent increase of the vis viva of the particle; whence it follows that the vis viva of all the Ampèrian molecular currents contained in the conductor must, while the current traverses the conductor, increase ; that is to say, the square of the velocity with which the particles in the Ampèrian molecular current revolve about one another must increase proportionally to the force of segregation (electro*motive force*), and proportionally to the distance through which this force acts in its own direction (or to the strength of the current). If the ratio of the electromotive force to the strength of the current be called resistance, we may say instead of the above that the vis viva of all the molecular currents contained in the conductor increases, during the passage of the current, proportionally to the resistance, and proportionally to the square of the strength of the current.

This increase of *kinetic energy* of the electrical particles contained in a conductor while a current traverses it, follows therefore as a necessary consequence of the action of the electromotive force upon the particles, while these particles, as the result of the current, move onward in the direction of this force.

This theoretical conclusion receives, not indeed a direct, but an indirect confirmation from experiment, inasmuch as an increase of *thermal energy* is *observed* in the conductor while a current traverses it. And this *observed* increase of the *thermal energy* in the conductor is equal to the *calculated* increase of the *kinetic energy* of the electrical particles in the Ampèrian molecular currents of the conductor.

Now the *thermal energy* of a body is a *kinetic energy* resulting from movements in the *interior of the body*, which are therefore inaccessible to direct observation. In like manner, the *kinetic energy* belonging to the electrical particles in the Ampèrian molecular currents in a conductor is a kinetic energy which results from movements taking place in the *interior of the conductor*, and therefore inaccessible to direct observation.

But notwithstanding this agreement, the *thermal energy* of a body and this kinetic energy of the electrical particles in the Ampèrian currents contained in the same body might possibly be altogether different as to their essential nature. For it is possible that the *thermal energy* might be energy resulting from the motion of quite other particles than those of electricity, and the motion of these other particles might be of quite a different kind from those of the particles in Ampèrian currents.

In order to explain the identity of the increase of the energy of the Ampèrian molecular currents, as determined above, with

#### 144 Prof. W. Weber on Electricity in relation to

the increase of thermal energy found by observation, it would then be absolutely necessary, according to the principle of the conservation of energy, that a transference should take place of the kinetic energy of the electrical particles in the Ampèrian currents to the other particles whose motion constitutes heat. And indeed it would be needful that all the kinetic energy produced by the current in the electrical particles of the Ampèrian currents should be completely transferred to these other particles at each instant.

But apart from the consideration that it is impossible to conceive how such a *complete* transference could take place, it is self-evident that any even partial transference of the kinetic energy of Ampèrian molecular currents to other particles is contradictory of the *permanence* which belongs to the essential nature of Ampèrian currents. If such a transference of kinetic energy from electrical particles in molecular currents to other particles were really to occur, it would simply prove that the molecular currents, since they would not possess the permanence wherein the essence of Ampèrian molecular currents consists.

Hence it follows as a consequence that, if in conductors all the electrical particles exist in the state of aggregation corresponding to Ampèrian molecular currents, the observed increase in the *thermal energy* of a conductor, during the passage of a current through it, must result *immediately* from the increase of the *kinetic energy* of the electrical particles constituting the Ampèrian currents; that is to say, the *thermal energy* imparted to the conductor by the current must be *kinetic energy* due to motions in the interior of the conductor, and must in fact consist in an increase in the strength of the Ampèrian currents formed by the electrical particles in the conductor.

Reference may also be made, in connexion with the *identity of* thermal energy and the kinetic energy of Ampèrian molecular currents, to what is said respecting "the Transformation of the work of the current into Heat," in the 10th volume of the Abhandlungen der K. Ges. d. Wiss. zu Göttingen (1862), in the 33rd section of the memoir entitled "Zur Galvanometrie."

#### 20. On Thermomagnetism.

The following remark readily connects itself with the hypothesis of the previous section, that the electricity in conductors exists in the state of aggregation corresponding to Ampèrian molecular currents—and with the consequent identity of the *thermal energy* of the conductor and the *kinetic energy* of the Ampèrian currents in the conductor—namely, that equality of *temperature* in two conductors must depend upon certain rela-

tions between the strength and character of the Ampèrian currents in the two conductors, but that, along with the relation needed for this equality of temperature, the following difference may exist between the currents of the two conductors, namely :--that greater masses of electricity may move with smaller velocity in the Ampèrian currents of the one conductor, and smaller masses of electricity with greater velocity in those of the other conductor.

Let now a ring be conceived, formed of two such dissimilar conductors, through which a constant current passes, so that in the same time an equal quantity of electricity passes through every section of the ring; then it is evident that equal quantities of electricity must also traverse the two sections which bound the first layer of the second conductor. But the electricity which traverses the first section comes from the first conductor, in the molecular currents of which large masses of electricity move with small velocity. Hence, in consequence of this smaller velocity, this electricity which penetrates into the first layer of the second conductor possesses less vis viva. The electricity which passes through the second section comes from the above-mentioned first layer of the second conductor itself, where a smaller mass of electricity moves in the Ampèrian currents with a greater velocity, and therefore it possesses, in consequence of this greater velocity, a greater vis viva. It follows from this, that, as a consequence of the current, this first layer of the second conductor gives up more vis viva to the following layer of the second conductor than it receives from the last layer of the first conductor. Consequently a diminution takes place in the kinetic energy of the Ampèrian currents of this layer, or, in other words, a diminution of the thermal energy or temperature.

The opposite condition is found on considering the two sections which bound the first layer of the first conductor. The electricity which passes through the first section into this laver comes out of the end of the second conductor with a greater velocity; and that which passes out of this layer through the second section, leaves this section with a smaller velocity ; whence it follows that, as a consequence of the current, the first layer of the first conductor gives up less vis viva to the following layer of the same conductor than it receives from the last layer of the second conductor; and thus an increase takes place in the kinetic energy of the Ampèrian currents of this layer, or, in other words, an increase of the thermal energy or temperature.

It will be seen that a foundation is here presented for the doctrine of thermomagnetism, and in particular for Peltier's fundamental experiment, although it would lead us too far to pursue it further here.  $\mathbf{L}$ 

Phil. Mag. S. 4. Vol. 43. No. 284, Feb. 1872.

It may suffice merely to add here a similar remark in relation to Seebeck's fundamental thermomagnetic experiment. In a body which possesses the same temperature in all its parts, the heat is supposed to be in a state of *mobile equilibrium*; or we speak, with Fourier, of a *reciprocal radiation* of the particles of the body, by virtue of which each particle parts with just as much heat to the surrounding particles as it receives from them. Now, if heat consists in Ampèrian molecular currents, which, however, are broken up by the positive and negative particles separating from each other until they encounter other particles, with which they form new molecular currents, equilibrium of temperature must consist in this, that the vis viva of the electrical particles which leave any part of the body is equal to the vis viva of the electrical particles which enter this part of the body.

Let us now consider the surface of contact of two conductors which differ from each other only by greater masses of electricity moving with smaller velocity in the Ampèrian currents of one, and smaller masses moving with greater velocity in those of the other. Then, when both the conductors are at the same temperature, the vis viva of the electrical particles which pass from the first conductor into the second must be equal to the vis viva of the electrical particles that pass from the second conductor into the first; but the mass of the electrical particles which pass from the first conductor into the second would be greater than the mass of the electrical particles which pass out of the second conductor into the first. But from this (if the electricity which passes over is always positive, while the negative electricity remains behind in the conductor, to the particles of which it adheres) there would result a difference of electrical charge on the two sides of the surface of contact; that is to say, there would result an electromotive force at this surface of contact; for the electromotive force of a surface of contact is a force whereby a difference of electrical charge is produced at the two sides of the surface of contact.

If now the two conductors are of such a nature that this difference of charge at the two sides of their surface of contact is not always the same, but is greater or less according to variations of temperature, there would follow the production of a current in a ring formed of these two conductors, if different temperatures were to exist at the two surfaces of contact of the conductors.

# 21. Helmholtz on the contradiction between the Law of Electrical Force and the Law of the Conservation of Force.

In his memoir, "Ueber die Bewegungsgleichungen der Elektricität für ruhende leitende Körper," in the Journal für die reine und angewandte Mathematik (vol. lxxii. pp. 7 and 8), Helmholtz deduces from the law of electrical force the equation of motion of two electrical particles for motions in the direction of the distance r of the two particles, namely

$$\frac{1}{cc} \cdot \frac{dr^2}{dt^2} = \frac{C - \frac{ee'}{r}}{\frac{1}{2}mcc - \frac{ee'}{r}}$$

or, putting  $C = \frac{ee^{l}}{r_{0}}$  and  $\frac{2ee^{l}}{mcc} = \rho$ , the equation

$$\frac{1}{cc}\frac{dr^2}{dt^2} = \frac{r-r_0}{r-\rho} \cdot \frac{\rho}{r_0};$$

that is to say, the same equation as was arrived at in section 9. If  $\frac{ee'}{r} > \frac{1}{2}mcc > C$ —that is, if  $\frac{\rho}{r} > 1 > \frac{\rho}{r_0}$ , we have  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}$  positive and greater than *cc*, and  $\frac{dr}{dt}$  is therefore real. If the latter is also positive, *r* will increase until  $\frac{ee'}{r} = \frac{1}{2}mcc$ , that is till  $r = \rho$ , and then  $\frac{dr}{dt}$  becomes infinitely great.

The same will happen if, to begin with,  $C > \frac{1}{2}mcc > \frac{ee'}{r}$ ; that is; if  $\frac{\rho}{r_0} > 1 > \frac{\rho}{r}$ , and  $\frac{dr}{dt}$  is negative.

These consequences are, according to Helmholtz, in contradiction with the law of the conservation of force.

Now it may be remarked hereupon, in the first place, that two electrical particles are here assumed which begin to move with a *finite* velocity certainly, but one which is greater than the velocity *c*—greater, that is, than 439450.  $10^6 \frac{\text{millimetre}}{\text{second}}$ . The case of two bodies moving relatively to each other with such a velocity is nowhere recognizable in nature. In all practical cases we are accustomed rather to treat  $\frac{1}{cc} \frac{dr^2}{dt^2}$  as a very small fraction; and this deserves notice.

For, according to Helmholtz (loc. cit. p. 7), a law is in contradiction with the law of the conservation of force if two particles, moving in accordance with it and beginning with a *finite* velocity, attain, within a finite distance of each other, *infinite* vis viva, and so are able to do an infinitely great amount of work.

The principle seems to be here announced that, according to the law of the conservation of force, two particles cannot, under any circumstances, possess infinite vis viva.

## 148 On the Principle of the Conservation of Energy.

For the above assertion may evidently be inverted, and we may say a law is in contradiction with the law of the conservation of force, if two particles, moving in accordance with it and beginning with *infinite* velocity, attain, at a finite distance from each other, finite vis viva, and thus suffer an infinitely great diminution of the work which they are able to perform.

The two particles must therefore always retain an infinite velocity; for if they have not lost it in any finite distance, however great, they would, in accordance with the nature of potential, never lose it even at greater distances. But bodies which always move relatively to each other with an infinite velocity are excluded from the region of our inquiries.

But if two particles never possess more than finite vis viva, there must be a finite limiting value of vis viva which they never exceed. It is consequently possible that this limiting value for two electrical particles e and e' may be  $=\frac{ee'}{\rho}$ ; that is, that the square of the velocity, with which the two particles move relatively to each other, may not exceed cc.

The contradiction urged by Helmholtz would, according to this, lie not in the law, but in his assumption, according to which the two particles began to move with a velocity the square of which, namely  $\frac{dr^2}{dt^2}$ , was >cc.

If such a determination of the limiting value of vis viva is assumed in connexion with the *law of the conservation of force* according to Helmholtz, it may equally well be assumed in connexion with the *fundamental law of electrical action* (see section 4); that is, the work denoted there by U, as well as the vis viva denoted by x (in the law  $U + x = \frac{ee'}{\rho}$ ), may both be regarded as being by their nature positive quantities.

In the second place, it may be remarked that, though the two electrical particles do attain infinite vis viva at a finite distance from each other, this finite distance is  $\rho = \frac{2ee'}{cc} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$ , which, according to our measures, is an *undefinable small distance*, for the same reasons that the electrical masses  $\epsilon$  and  $\epsilon'$  are themselves undefinable according to our measures. This distance was consequently denominated in section 9 a molecular distance.

The theory of molecular motions requires in any case a special development, which as yet is wanting throughout. But as long as such a theory remains excluded from mechanical investigations, any doubts as to *physical admissibility* in relation to molecular motions are without foundation.

It may be remarked, in the third place, that the same objection, namely that two particles, which begin with finite velocity, attain infinite vis viva at a finite distance from each other, applies also to the law of gravitation, if it is assumed that the masses of ponderable particles are concentrated in points. But if this objection is got rid of, in the case of the law of gravitation, by assuming that the masses even of the smallest particles occupy space, we must make the same assumption in relation to electrical particles, in which case it results that only a vanishingly small part of such a particle arrives at a given instant at the distance  $\rho$ ; another vanishingly small part, which arrived at the distance  $\rho$  at the previous instant, will have exchanged its infinitely great velocity of approach for an infinitely great velocity of separation. But if these vanishing parts of the smallest particles are solidly connected together, there cannot be any question of such infinite velocities at all.

Even cosmical masses may begin their movements under physically admissible conditions, and, by continuing to move according to the law of gravitation, may come into physically inadmissible conditions, which can be avoided only through the cooperation of molecular forces confined to molecular distances. The disregard of this cooperation is, strictly speaking, only temporarily allowable, namely so long as the conditions arc such that its influence is either nothing or may be regarded as vanishingly small. But just as little as an objection to the law of gravitation is derived from this fact, ought any objection to the fundamental law of electrical action to be derived from the physically inadmissible conditions to which, according to Helmholtz, this law leads, when it is considered that these inadmissible conditions are connected only with certain molecular distances.

#### XVI. Notices respecting New Books.

Theory of Heat. By J. CLERK MAXWELL, M.A., F.R.S., Professor of Experimental Physics in the University of Cambridge. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1871. (Pp. 312.)

THE subject of this work is correctly indicated by its title; it is a treatise on the *Theory* of Heat; its writer's aim having been to state and enforce the general propositions that have been established regarding the nature and effects of heat, rather than to discuss the particular facts which are summed up in those propositions. It must not be supposed, however, that no notice is taken of the experiments which form the basis of our knowledge of Heat; on the contrary, they are described, where necessary, at sufficient length to bring out the principles involved in them; but they are described