the factors of the product abcd.

• If, therefore, we consider all whole numbers as products of two or more numbers multiplied together, we shall soon find that some of them cannot result from such a multiplication, and consequently have not any factors; while others may be the products of two or more numbers multiplied together, and may consequently have two or more factors. Thus, 4 is produced by 2×2; 6 by 2×3; 8 by 2×2×2; 27 by 3×3×3; and 10 by 2×5, etc.

• But, on the other hand, the numbers 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, etc. cannot be represented in the same manner by factors, unless for that purpose we make use of unity, and represent 2, for instance, by 1×2. But the numbers which are multiplied by 1 remaining the same, it is not

IMPORTANT NOTES