

ful; from hence their seminal liquor will be weaker, and less in quantity, than that of men. Since, likewise, the seminal liquor of females contains fewer organic particles than that of males, must there not result a greater number of males than females from the mixture of these two liquors? This is really the case, for which it has hitherto been thought impossible to find a reason. About a sixteenth more male children are born than females; and we find that the same cause produces the same effect in all kinds of animals on which we have been able to make this observation.

CHAPTER V.

EXPOSITION OF THE SYSTEMS IN GENERATION.

PLATO* not only explains the generation of man, animals, plants, and elements, but even that of heaven and the gods, by reflected representations and images extracted from the

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* See the Timæus.