

a human body, the two legs of which, he affirms, were very discernible, as were the arms, breast, and head.* But by the figures which this author has given of this pretended embryo, it is evident his assertion is false. He might suppose he saw what he relates, but he was mistaken; for the embryo, such as he describes, was more formed on quitting this covering, and the state of a spermatic worm, than it would have been at the end of a month or five weeks in the matrix of its mother; therefore this observation of Dalempatius, instead of having been confirmed by other observations, has been rejected by every naturalist, the most exact and accurate of which have only discovered, in the seminal liquor of man, round and oblong bodies, which seemed to have long tails, but without any kind of members.

It might be said that Plato had spoken of these spermatic animals which become human forms; for he says, “*Vulva quoque matrix que in foeminis eadem ratione animal avidem generandi, quando procul a foetu per ætatis florem, aut ultra diutius detinetur, ægre fert*

* See *Nouvelles de la Republique des Lettres*. Ann. 1699, page 552.