

In the parts of generation of the two sexes in the human species, there is so much resemblance, and so singular a conformity, that we might be inclined to think those which appear so different externally, are at bottom the same organs, only more or less developed; this was the opinion of the ancients, and M. Daubenton's ideas on this subject appear to me very ingenious.

The formation of the foetus is, then, made by the union of the organic particles contained in the mixture of the seminal liquor of both sexes; this union produces the local establishment of the particles, which determines them to arrange themselves as they were in the individuals which furnished them; insomuch, that the molecules, which proceed from the head, cannot, by virtue of these laws, place themselves in the legs, or any other part of the foetus. All these molecules must be in motion when they unite, and in a motion which must cause them to tend to a kind of centre, about which the union is made. This centre, or fixed point, which is necessary to the union of the molecules, and which, by its reaction and inertia, fixes the activity, and destroys the

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