

not proportionable in all the parts of which it is composed. The more distant it is from the formation, the more in proportion are its parts, and it is only after it has quitted the womb of its mother that the growth of the parts is made in nearly an equal manner. It must not be imagined that the figure of the foetus, at the moment of formation, is absolutely like that of an adult. It is certain that the embryo contains every part which must compose a man, but they differ in their successive expansion.

In an organized body, as that of an animal, we may suppose some parts are more essential than others, and though some may be useless or superfluous, there are some on which the rest seem to depend for their expansion and disposition. We must consider some as fundamental parts, without which the animal cannot exist, and which are more accessory and external, and appear to derive their origin from the first, and which seem to be formed as much for the ornament, symmetry, and external perfection of the animal, as for the necessity of its existence, and the exercise of the essential functions of life. These two kinds of different parts expand successively, and are almost