

tain flow out, and the sides of the orifice of the matrix, and the vagina, being thus moistened, give way more easily to the passage of the child. After the flowing of this liquor there remains sufficient room in the matrix for the midwife to return the child, if the position is unfavourable. When the foetus is come out the delivery is not entirely completed, the placenta and membranes remain in the matrix, and the new-born infant adheres to them by the umbilical cord; the hand of the midwife, or the weight of the body of the infant alone, draws them out by means of this cord. Those organs which were necessary to the life of the foetus become useless, and even noxious to the new-born infant. They are instantly separated from the body of the child, by tying the umbilical cord about an inch distance from the navel, and by cutting it about an inch from the ligature. The remainder of this cord dries away, and separates of itself from the navel, about the sixth or seventh day.

On examining the foetus previous to its birth we may form some idea of its natural functions. It has organs, which are necessary to it while in the womb of its mother, but which become useless. For the better under-