

matrix may likewise be imperfect ; and the perpetual closure or expansion of the orifice of the matrix, are defects which are alike repugnant to generation. But the most frequent cause of sterility, both in men and women, is the corruption of the seminal liquid in the *testes* ; for if the secretion, by which the semen be formed, is vitiated, the fluid must be incapable of impregnation ; in which case, though the organs may have every appearance of being properly qualified for it, there will be no procreation ; but these causes have no external appearance.

In cases of sterility, different means have been employed to discover whether the defect was to be imputed to the man or the woman. Of these, inspection is the chief ; and indeed, if the sterility be occasioned by an external fault in the conformation, this is sufficient. But if the defect is in the internal organs, it is almost impossible to discover or remove it. There are men, to all appearance well formed, who want the genuine sign of a proper conformation ; and others who have it in so slight a degree as to make the mark of virility extremely equivocal. This is the most animal part of the
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