

the liver, the development of which keeps pace with that of the stomach and intestines; and lastly appear the lungs, taking their place and form, always filled with air, and so transparent that one might believe the animal has on each side of the trunk a bubble of air gradually dilating and lengthening. When all these organs have acquired the necessary development, the spectator beholds in the little creature the beginning, as it were, of its animal life. Its former life being merely organic, resembling that of a vegetable, but now its motions are become the result of its sensations and will.\*

We see in this instance how exactly the rudiments, as it were, of the organs of the future animal are fitted to respond to the action of the elements upon them, how the germ of every organ begins, if I may so speak, to vegetate, and grows till it is fully developed, so as to become either a fit instrument of the will or of the vital powers, and adapted to carry the creature through all its destined operations, and to enable and incline it to fulfil all its prescribed functions. These observations, and this interesting little history, will apply to *man* himself, who, in his embryo state, is the subject of similar developments; and the words of the divine Psalmist are a beautiful comment upon this our embryo life: *For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.*†

The salamander, as is reported, says Aristotle, if it goes

\* Rusconi, in Edinb. Philos. Journ. ix. 110—113, on *Salamandra platycauda*.

† Ps. cxxxix. 13—16.