

The concave surface of the placenta is clothed by the chorion; the convex is also covered by a kind of soft membrane, easily torn, which seems to be a continuation of the chorion, and the foetus is included under the double coat of the chorion and the amnios. The form is globular, because the intervals between the membranes and the foetus are filled with a transparent liquor. This liquor is contained by the amnios, which is the internal membrane, it is thin and transparent; it folds round the umbilical cord at its insertion into the placenta, and covers it the whole length to the navel of the foetus. The chorion is the external membrane; it is thick and spongy, sprinkled with sanguinary vessels, and composed of many coats, the exterior of which covers the convex surface of the placenta. It follows the inequalities, and covers the papillæ, which spring from the placenta, and are received in the cavities found at the bottom of the matrix, called *lacunæ*. The foetus adheres to the matrix by these insertions.

Some anatomists have thought that the human form had, like those of certain quadrupeds, a membrane called *allantois*, destined
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