

quite contrary to this opinion; for if the arteries of the umbilical cord is injected the liquor returns by the veins, and not any part of it escapes externally. Besides, the nipples may be drawn from the vacuities where they are lodged, without any blood issuing either from the matrix or placenta: a milky liquor only issues from both, and which, we have already observed, serves the foetus for nutriment. This liquor possibly enters into the veins of the placenta, as the chyle enters into the subclavian vein; and perhaps the placenta in a great measure performs the office of the lungs in bringing the blood to maturity. It is certain that the blood appears much sooner in the placenta than in the foetus, and I have often observed in eggs that have been under the hen for a day or two, that the blood appeared at first in the membranes, and that their sanguinary vessels are very large and numerous, while the whole body of the chicken, excepting the point where these blood-vessels terminate, is only a white and almost transparent matter, in which there is not the smallest sign of a sanguinary vessel.

It has been imagined, that the liquor of the amnios is a nutriment the foetus re-