

Women who have had many children assert, that girls remain longer in the womb than boys. If this is really the case, we must not be surprized at female children being born at ten months. When children come before nine months they are not so well proportioned as those who are not brought into the world till ten months, the bodies of the latter are sensibly larger and better formed ; their hair is longer, the growth of the teeth, although still hid under the gums, is more advanced ; the voice is clearer, and the tone more deep.

There is much uncertainty on the occasional causes of delivery, and we do not perfectly know what obliges the infant to quit the womb. Some imagine, that the foetus having acquired a certain size, the matrix is too confined for its longer stay, and that the constraint felt by the foetus, obliges it to use every effort to quit its prison ; others say, and it is nearly to the same purport, that the weight of the foetus becomes so great, that the matrix is forced to open to free itself from the burthen. These reasons do not appear satisfactory ; for the matrix must always have capacity and strength to contain and sustain the weight of a foetus of nine months, since it often contains two, and it is certain that the