

the nature of the connexion, if any, between the fœtus and womb, nor the exact part of the "uterus anfractuosis" in which the embryo was developed:—nothing as to the nature of the fœtal membranes or appendages:—nothing as to the mode or period of transfer of the new-born young to the pouch; little as to the time of its continuance there and its adhesion to the nipple. In the course of Mr. Owen's observations he discovered that in the great kangaroo (*Macropus major*) the period of uterine gestation was 38 days, and that the new-born animal was but an inch in length, naked, blind, with the hind legs *shorter* than the fore-legs, and the tail not longer; a creature, in a word, whose parentage could never have been suspected, if it had not been ascertained *ex visu*. He perceived further, that the mother transfers her delicate and minute progeny by means of her lips to the nipple concealed within the pouch; to this nipple the prematurely-born instinctively adheres, breathing freely, and clinging fast by its fore-limbs; and there it hangs for a period of six months; after which it uses the pouch as a place of shelter, and returns to suck occasionally for two or three months longer. Lastly, the fœtus was found to be developed, not in the "anfractuosis canals," but in the part of the uterus which Home had described as the vitelline part of the Fallopian tube: its membranes consisted of a chorion, a large umbilical sac, and a small allantois, but there was no trace of placenta.

A summary of all his labours on the marsupial and monotrematous animals was finally communicated to the *Cyclopædia of Anatomy and Physiology*, vol. iii. In this masterly article he shows, from anatomical and physiological researches, abundant reasons for their association together, and for the separation of the associated group, as a distinct sub-class, from the rest of the Mammalia.

Correspondence.

To the Members of the Medical Profession.

GENTLEMEN,—I have read with pleasure a letter from the Hon. C. Widmer, calling on his Medical brethren to attend a meeting in Toronto, for the purpose of promoting their attainment of the high position in which the profession stands in all other countries under British dominion.

To this end I humbly conceive it will, as a matter of course, be necessary to rid it of the charlatanism (too long tolerated) which exists in some of its branches, and I hope it will be permitted me to ask the gentlemen forming so important a body, whether it is not competent for them to take upon themselves the protection of the community against the offensive quackery that prevails in Dentistry, to which humble branch