

Fallopian tubes. These are to convey the little egg from the place where it is formed into the uterus. They lie along the broad ligament, but one end is free and furnished with a delicate fringe. Below these tubes, also supported by the broad ligament, are two oval bodies called the ovaries. These contain the eggs which hold the germ of the future life. The eggs are so tiny that it would take one hundred and twenty-five of them to reach an inch.

In front of the uterus lies the bladder, behind it the rectum, or lower part of the large intestine, often called the back passage, and leading directly to its mouth is the vagina, or front passage, through which the child makes its entrance to the world.

The uterus is something like a pear in shape, with the broad end turned uppermost. It has thick walls, but is a very small organ in the virgin state. Then it is only about three inches long and two wide at the broadest part, and weighs from an ounce to an ounce and a half. When it contains a child new material is added to it, and it increases greatly in size. After delivery it gradually shrinks, but never quite regains its former dimensions.

If the newly-made mother stands and walks too soon, the weight of the uterus is apt to stretch the broad ligament, which, not being elastic like a piece of India rubber, remains in this state. The uterus