

nishes the commonwealth with muscle, mind and morals, preserves her own life by the due performance of her functions, and gives her husband happiness and health, and lengthens out his life.

The period of lactation, as appointed by the laws of unobstructed and propitious marriage, is about nine months. Then is the woman fit again for the performance of gestation; and the milk ceases to flow, or it is of little value to the child. Gestation may commence again as early as the seventh, or not until the twelfth month of lactation, but the average period is the ninth.

The reasons why a woman occupies the period of nine months, in the two processes of utero-gestation and lactation, must be sought for in the constitution of the world in which she lives, and in the nature and design of that peculiar race of beings, which she thus produces and supports. The world which she inhabits, though immense, compared with the small space which she requires, living or dead, is yet a bounded space; and does not furnish sustenance quite so gratuitously, as at first sight we might suppose. Some space and time are requisitely interposed between each human advent, or there would be nothing for the race, but a mere mass of misery and death.

The geological phenomena which are presented to us, teach us, that each condition of our globe, which has fulfilled its part in the great act of planetary destiny, is yet subservient to the greater drama of the destiny of solar stellarities; and must have been performed in periodic times, in order to accord with all the greater movements and performances of the vast whole.

The earth on which we are performing our apportioned task, is now accomplishing its most important cycle. The race of man, the highest inhabitant, that yet has graced its surface, like other races with an animal nature, is not eternally to reproduce. There is a limit, within which the last gestation and lactation, must be accomplished. The last scene of the last act of the grand drama of the human race will be performed, and the catastrophe of all the nations, tribes, and individuals will appear.

The generation and gestation, birth, lactation, education, and formation of the race, must all depend upon, be subject to, the greater movements of the mechanism of the heavens.

The present cycle of the earth must be performed within a certain space of time. The whole of the arrangements and productions of the earth, are for the ministry of good to man. The number and condition of the race, must be a definite arrangement, or nothing could be carried out by them, or known of them. The definite condition of the race, being given, the definite condition of each one must be admitted. The greater law includes the less. Hence every human advent, is accomplished by the combined laws of the great universe.

Though man appears upon the earth but as an animal, he has a spiritual nature; and as he progresses in his being, the wonderful disparity between himself and other animals, become most manifest. This spiritual nature has its laws of progress and development, and being of a higher nature than the animal, subjects the lower, necessarily, to its requirements. This