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facts in physiology. “By the formation of the after-birth (plecenta) a connection is established between the mother and the living creature (fœtus) in her womb, through which the latter is continually drawing supplies from the mother’s blood, for its growth and maintenance. But there are good grounds for believing that, through the same channel, the mother is as constantly, though, doubtless, in much less quantity, abstracting materials from the blood of the fœtus. Now, is it at all unreasonable to suppose that the materials in question may be charged with (or have inherent in them) the constitutional qualities of the fœtus, and that, passing into the body of the mother, and mixing there with the general mass of her blood, they may impart those qualities to her system.” “The qualities referred to must in part be derived by the fœtus from its male parent, and be to that extent endentical with his. The distinctive peculiarities, therefore, of that parent may thus come to be engrafted on the mother, or to attach in some way to her system; and if so, what more likely than that they should be communicated by her to any offspring she may afterwards have by other males! and, under some views, it is the portion of the animal frame which is especially so endowed. Its first appearance in the area vasculosa of the germinal membrane of the embryo is prior to the existence of those very organs which, after birth, chiefly minister fresh materials to it; and though undergoing constant change, it has this in com-