

**An Account of the tenia, and method of treating it / [Signed Lassone, etc. and translated by S.F. Simmons].**

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Comptroller  
of the  
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E. IX

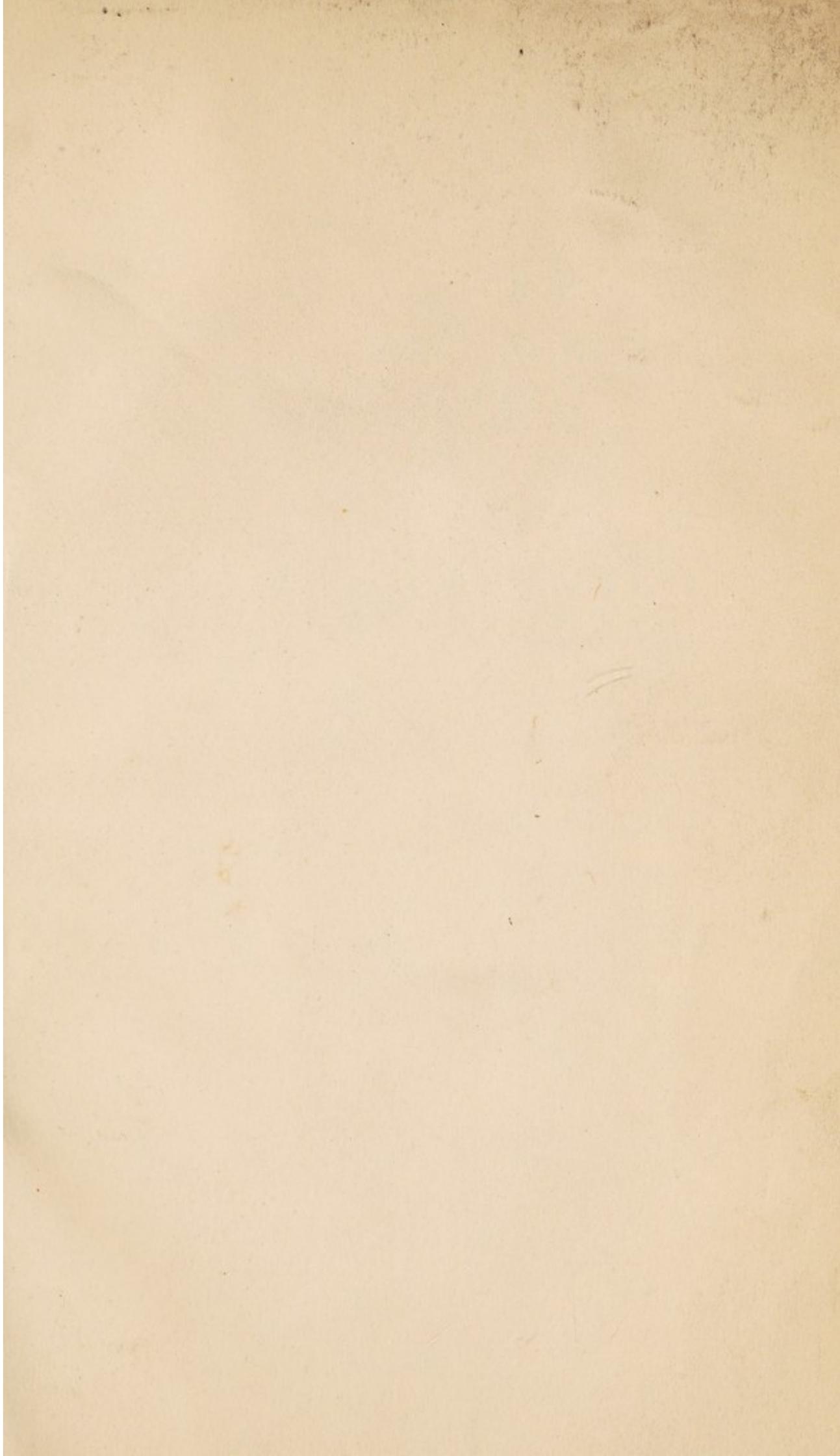
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LASSONE, Joseph  
Francois de





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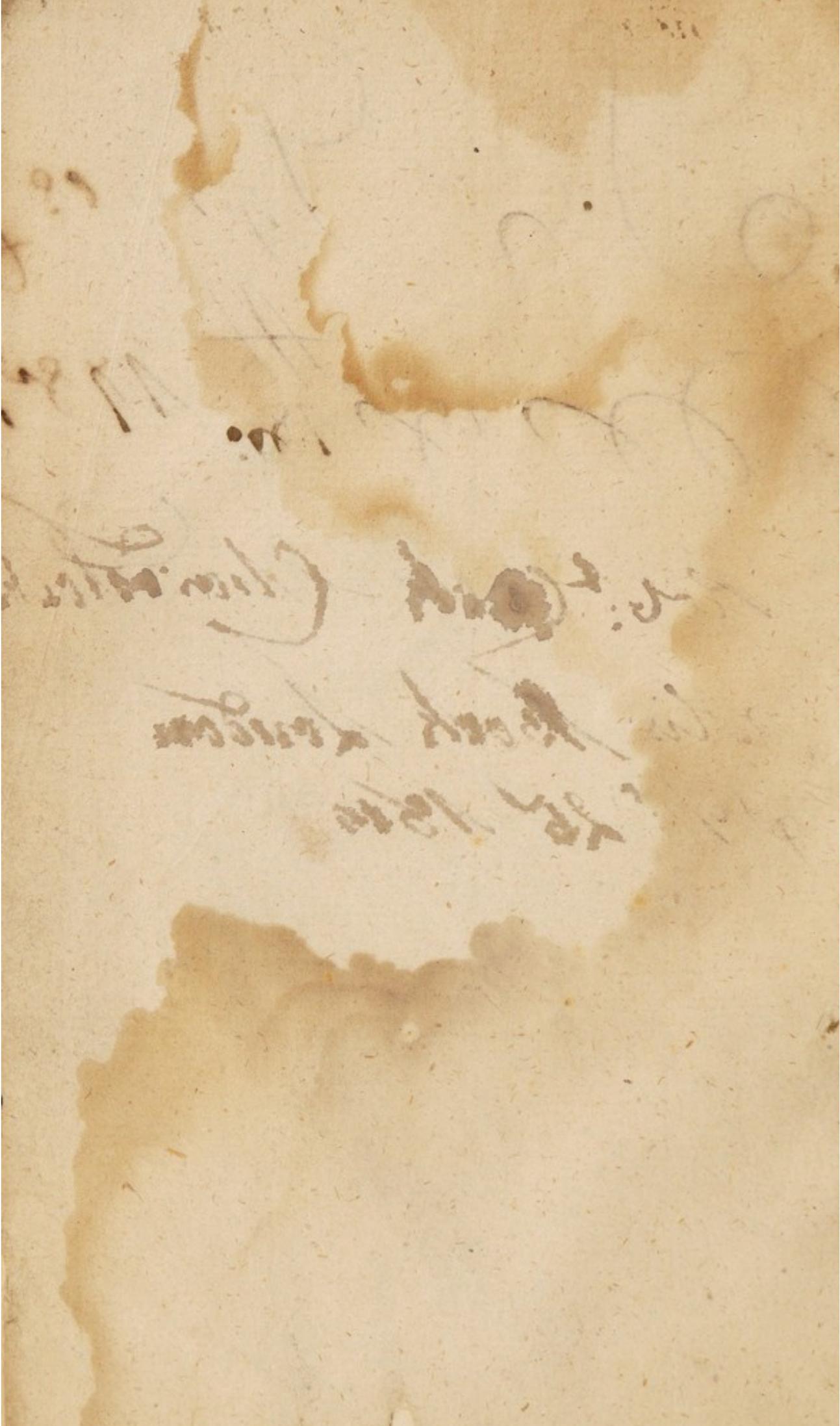
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*[Faint, illegible markings and bleed-through from the reverse side, possibly a signature or stamp]*

London October 17 1812

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AN  
ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
TENIA  
OR  
LONG TAPE WORM.

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THE HISTORY OF THE

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

OF THE

EMPEROR

OR

THE GREAT WORKS

A N  
A C C O U N T  
O F T H E  
T E N I A,  
A N D  
M E T H O D O F T R E A T I N G I T.

T H E S E C O N D E D I T I O N,  
C O R R E C T E D A N D C O N S I D E R A B L Y E N L A R G E D.

L O N D O N:  
P R I N T E D F O R J. W I L K I E, N O. 71, S T. P A U L'S  
C H U R C H - Y A R D. M D C C L X X V I I I.

A N

A C C O U N T

O F T H E

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M E T H O D O F T R E A T I N G I T .

T H E S E C O N D E D I T I O N .

R E V I S E D A N D C O N S I D E R A B L Y E N L A R G E D .

L O N D O N :

P R I N T E D F O R J . W I L K I N , N O . 7 1 , S T . P A U L ' S  
C H U R C H - Y A R D . M D C C X X V I I I .



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## P R E F A C E.

**O**F the different worms that are occasionally met with in the human body, the *Tenia* is by far the most dangerous; not only on account of the symptoms it excites, but of the difficulty with which it is expelled. Physicians in all ages have complained of this formidable enemy, as yielding with certainty to no known remedy. The curiosity of the public has long been excited with respect to the Morat method of  
treat-

treatment. A Swiss physician of the name of Herrenschwand, more than twenty years ago, acquired no little celebrity by distributing a composition of which he stiled himself the inventor, and which was probably of the same nature as Madame Nouffer's. Several very eminent men, as Tronchin, Hovius, Bonnet, Cramer (*a*) and others, have written concerning the effects of this remedy. It seems that Dr. Herrenschwand used to give a powder by way of preparation, the night before he administered his specific. Nothing could be said with certainty concerning the composition either of one or the other. The treatment was said sometimes to produce the most violent effects, and to

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(*a*) Biblioth. raison. Tom. 33.

leave the patients in a valetudinary state. Dr. de Haen was dissuaded by his friends from using it, because it disordered the patients too much (*b*). It will be readily conceived, now that we are acquainted with Madame Nouffer's method, that these effects were occasioned wholly by the purgative bolus. It is not strange, that resin of scammony or jalap, combined with mercurius dulcis and gamboge, all of them in strong doses, should in many subjects occasion the greatest disorders. It seems likely, however, that much of the success of the remedy depends on the use of a drastic purge. Some of the ancients who were acquainted with the virtues of the fern root ob-

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(*b*) Rat. Medend. tom. iii. p. 561.

served

ferred that its efficacy was increased by scammony. Resinous purges, especially when combined with mercury, have often been given with success in cases of Tenia. Dr. De Haen saw a worm of this sort five ells long, expelled by the resin of jalap alone (c). Dr. Gaubius knew a woman who had taken a variety of antihelmintic remedies without any effect, tho' she had voided a portion of Tenia an ell and a half long, previous to the use of these medicines: but at length, after taking a purge, of singular strength, she voided the worm entire. Many other instances of the same kind are to be met with in authors. Other remedies have occasionally been given with success.

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(c) Rat. Medend. tom. 3. p. 566.

In Sweden, it has been a practice to drink several gallons of cold water, and then to take some drastic purge. Boerhaave says, that he himself saw a *Tenia*, measuring three hundred ells, expelled from a Russian by means of the *vitriolum martis* (*d*).

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(*d*) *Ipse solo vitriolo martis cum melle dato ex Russo homine vermem trecentarum ulnarum expulsi.* Prælect. ad Institut. tom. vi. p. 180. — I suspect an error of the press here, and that *trecentarum* should be read *tricenarum*; altho' Baron Haller who published the edition from which I take this quotation, has not noticed it amongst the errata. Even thirty ells will perhaps seem an incredible size to the reader who is a stranger to the *Tenia*; and yet there are very respectable authorities to prove its having been sometimes voided of that length. In the memoirs of the academy of sciences at Paris, A. 1709. mention is made of a *Tenia* that measured 165 feet. Dr. Rosen, late first physician to the king of Sweden, has given an account in the Stockholm memoirs, of a *Tenia* more than eighty feet long. (See Biblioth. raison. for 1748.) Tulpius (Obs. 42. L. 2.) saw fragments of a worm of this sort, that measured above twenty ells. Many other instances of the same kind might be quoted, but I presume these few will be sufficient,

All these methods, however, have been too often ineffectual.

Many learned writers have imagined that the *Tenia* is not a single worm, but a chain of lesser worms or ascarides linked together in a continued series. The structure of the *Tenia cucurbitina* seems to have given rise to this opinion, and it is remarkable that this worm has been confounded with the *Tenia lata*, by almost all the ancient physicians, and by many of the moderns. Platerus seems to have been the first writer who distinguished them properly. They are indeed very different from each other.

The *Tenia cucurbitina* probably derives its nourishment through its  
many

many little marginal orifices. Whereas the *Tenia lata* has a common mouth in its filament or thread; it seems to have no marginal orifices, and its longitudinal vein is capable of being injected. M. Winflow found means to fill the whole of this vein with a coloured liquor, and Dr. De Haen introduced a very minute silver tube, as far as he pleased, into it, in the human *Tenia*, without injuring it, altho' this could not be done in the canine *Tenia* (*e*). This difference in the organization of these two worms might be suspected of making some difference in their reproductive power, did not experience prove them to be both equally capable of this. Even the earth worm which

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(*e*) Rat. Medend. tom. 3. p. 106.

is of a much more complicated structure than either of them, is nevertheless as eminent for this reproductive faculty as any other reptile.

“ The reproduction of the earth  
 “ worm, says M. Bonnet, is much  
 “ more surprising than that of the  
 “ polypus, as being of a size infi-  
 “ nitely greater, and much more  
 “ complicated in its structure. We  
 “ find in it a large apparatus of vis-  
 “ cera, vessels, muscles, &c. It  
 “ has blood, and that blood circu-  
 “ lates. But above all, it is an her-  
 “ maphrodite ; it unites the organs  
 “ proper to both sexes, and these  
 “ organs, are of the most exquisite  
 “ structure. The earth worm, tho’ in  
 “ appearance the lowest of animals,  
 “ might exhaust the industry of the  
 “ most sagacious observer, who with  
 “ the steadiness of a philosopher,  
 “ should

“ should confine himself to the examination of this one object alone(f).”

If therefore, Vallisnieri, Coulet, and many other writers, supposed the Tenia to be made up of a number of ascarides accidentally linked together to form one long compound worm, it was because they could have no idea of the great and wonderful truths, which have been since discovered by M. M. Trembley, Bonnet, Spallanzani, Necker and others. And yet it is remarkable that M. Andry who published his *Traité sur la Generation des Vers*, many years before the properties of Zoophytes began to be known, has the following expression. “ The Tenia or  
“ solitary Worm breaks easily in  
“ coming out of the body ; and if,

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(f) Contemplation de la Nature tom. 1. p. 257,

“ after

“ after being broken, that end which  
 “ has the head of the worm happens  
 “ to return in again, this broken  
 “ extremity grows and regenerates  
 “ again like a plant (*g*).”

It is an observation made by that ingenious anatomist Mr. John Hunter (*b*) that the living principle exists in the several parts of the body, independent of the influence of the brain or circulation, and that it subsists by these, or is indebted to them for its continuance; and in proportion as animals have less of brain and circulation, the living power has

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(*g*) “ Le Tenia, ou Ver solitaire, se rompt aisément en sortant du corps, et si, après s'être rompu, l'extrémité à laquelle tient la tête, vient à rentrer, cette extrémité rompue croît et repousse comme une plante.” Tom. 1, p. 203.

(*h*) Natural History of the Human Teeth.

less

less dependence on them, and becomes a more active principle in itself; and in many animals there is no brain nor circulation, so that this power is capable of being continued equally by all the parts themselves. M. Bonnet has remarked, that we can discover no marks of circulation, either in the fresh water polypus or the Tenia (*i*), and therefore, both these may be considered as approaching very nearly, to the nature of plants.

From what we now know of animal reproductions, it seems probable, that the Tenia is very often multiplied, by being accidentally separated into two or more portions, while it remains in the body.

With respect to the following little

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(*i*) Contemp, de la Nat. tom. ii, p. 70.

work, I flatter myself I am doing an acceptable office to the public, by putting it forth in an English dress: the authors of it are men of the most distinguished learning and abilities, and the observations they have made, cannot be too generally known.

To the testimonies they have collected to prove, that the efficacy of the fern root in cases of Tenia, was known to all the ancient physicians and to many later writers, I beg leave to add the following quotation from our countryman Gerard. “ The roots  
 “ of the male fern being taken to  
 “ the weight of half an ounce, driv-  
 “ eth forth long, flat worms out of  
 “ the belly, as Dioscorides writeth,  
 “ being drunke in mede or honied  
 “ water; and more effectually, if  
 “ it be given with two scruples or  
 “ two

“ two third parts of a dram of sca-  
 “ mony or of black hellebore : they  
 “ that will use it, saith he, must first  
 “ eate garlicke. The female ferne is  
 “ of like operation with the former,  
 “ as Galen saith.” Historie of Plants,  
 p. 1130.

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Since the first edition of this work  
 made its appearance, I have had an  
 opportunity of seeing the good effect  
 of the method described in it, in one  
 patient, a labouring man, about forty  
 years of age, who had voided portions  
 of the *Tenia lata*, at different times,  
 during the space of five or six years.  
 He had taken many of the popular  
 remedies, but from none of them had  
 received any permanent relief. This  
 patient took the whole of the fern  
 powder and bolus, but could not be  
 persuaded to make use of the injection

the preceding evening ; and it is perhaps to this omission we may ascribe his voiding the worm in detached pieces, as a complete evacuation of the *Tenia lata* will often depend much on the previous evacuation of the large intestines. The cure, however, seems to have been perfect ; for on recommending another dose of the fern, which was taken and worked off with Glauber's salts, no joints were evacuated ; nor has the patient had any complaints since.

To this case I have four others to add, which have been communicated to me by my learned friend Dr. Blackburne of Durham, and which the reader will find annexed to the present edition. This ingenious physician, who is well aware of the violent operation of the purgative bolus, has aimed at  
 after-

ascertaining the effects of a milder medicine used in its stead : and I cannot help expressing a wish, that his observations on this subject may be pursued. There is one distinction which the different structure of the two kinds of worm will perhaps enable us to make in the mode of treatment, and it is this : in cases of *Tenia lata*, when the whole of the process has been carefully adopted, we generally succeed in our attempts to evacuate the worm entire ; and to do this, especially if the worm is of a considerable length, will require a very active drastic purge, such as the bolus in question : but in cases of *Tenia cucurbitina*, the rings of which are so easily detached, we seldom obtain a cure, until the patient has taken more than one dose of the fern root ; in such instances, therefore, it would seem as if the *Ol. Ricini* & *Manna*, given in the way

those of its two principal ingredients  
were and numerous others when pro-  
perly administered.

Just as the last sheet of this work  
was going to the press I was favour-  
ed with a letter from Mr. Duncan,  
a celebrated physician at Edinburgh,  
which the reader will likewise find in  
the Appendix to the present edition.  
SAMUEL JOHNSON

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A N  
A C C O U N T  
O F T H E  
T E N I A, &c.

**T**HE Tenia with short rings, some-  
times distinguished by the name  
of the Solitary (*a*) Worm (*b*), sojourns in  
B the

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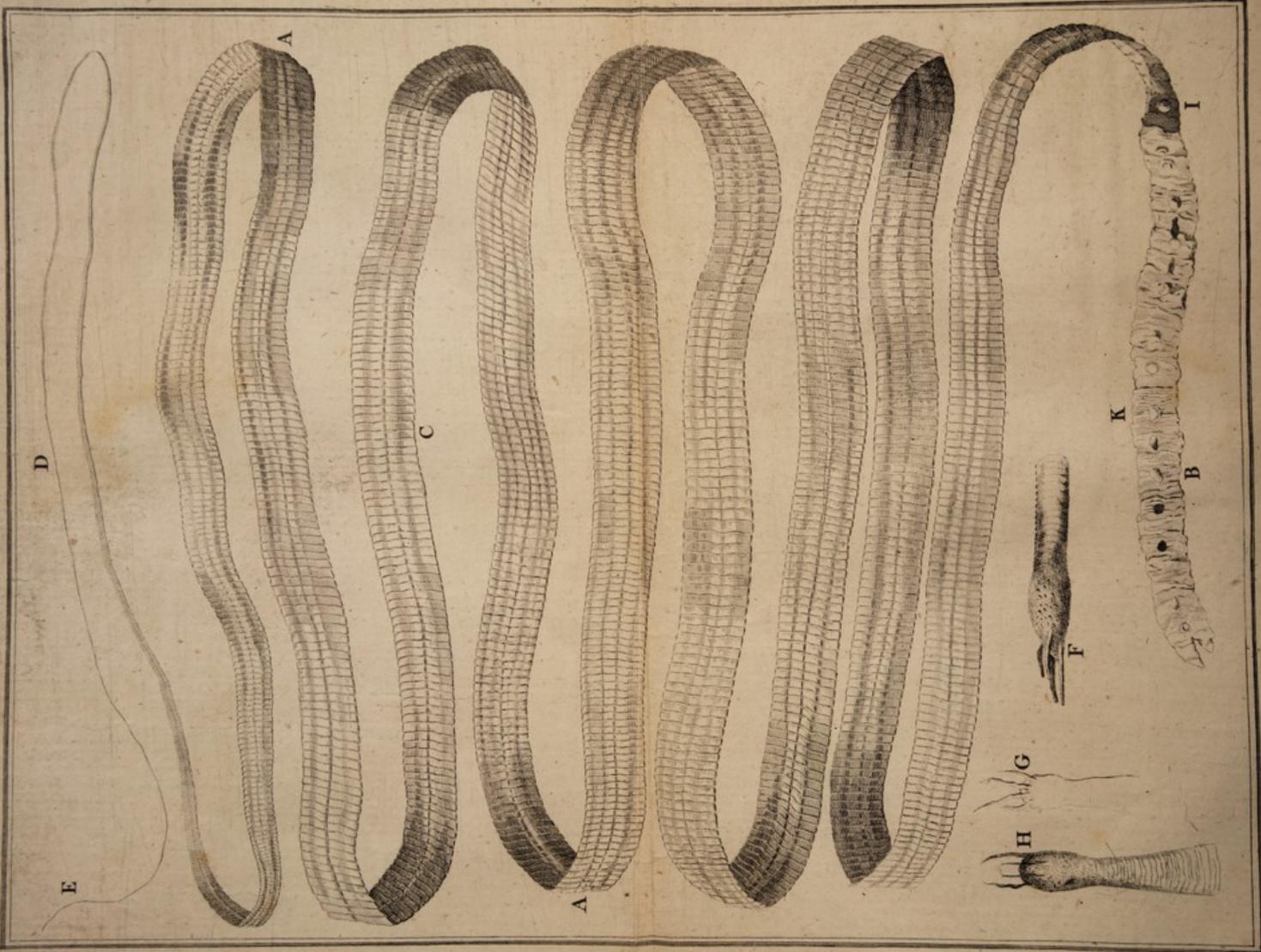
(*a*) Commonly known in English by the name of  
the Long Tape-Worm.

(*b*) *Lumbricus latus seu Tænia intestinorum*. Plater.  
tom. iii. page 810.

*Tænia, Ver Solitaire, Solium à épine*. Andry, Gener.  
des Vers. c. iii. art. 2. p. 73.

*Tænia a anneaux courts*. Bonnet, Mem. des Sav.  
Etrang. vol. i. p. 478.

*Tænia*



is not stopt or mitigated by suitable remedies, they fall into marasmus.

The Worm (*plate 1*) which occasions these accidents, is long and flat, composed of many very short rings that are articulated to each other; and has a kind of vein running through its whole length, (*plate 1. A.*) which is more or less apparent.—This has occasioned the Germans to give it the name of *flat spinous Worm*; It is not always of the same complexion, sometimes it appears of a blueish or reddish, and sometimes simply of a white colour; now and then it manifests itself only by a spot, which is to be perceived in the middle of each ring: in some of these Worms this spot is of a blackish colour, in others of a colour more tending to white; and it rises into a very small prominence on each side, that is not easily apparent however to the naked eye. The tail (B) or posterior end has never been capable of examination hitherto, because the Worm breaks, and the patients void portions of it occasionally,

either naturally or by the means of various remedies. Its body (c) which is usually several ells in length and flattened like a ribband, becomes gradually narrow towards its upper extremity and at length terminates in a small thread like appearance (D) of a foot or more in length. The point (E) which to the naked eye appears very minute, when examined by the lens seems somewhat bulbous, and when viewed through a microscope that magnifies powerfully, is found to be the head of the Worm, and is terminated by four horns of unequal length, which are perhaps the channels through which the animal derives its nourishment. The body of the Worm extends itself throughout the whole intestinal canal, and often reaches even to the anus. It has been named *Solitary Worm* (*Ver Solitaire*) because there commonly exists only one in the same subject; sometimes however, two of them are found together; and sometimes, after the expulsion of the first, there regenerates a second. It is by no means easy to remove this Worm; the purgative vermifuge remedies commonly used

used in physic, bring away portions of it, which we are always obliged to break, in order to separate them from those which remain behind; it seldom happens that they effect a compleat cure.

The reader must be careful not to confound, with the Worm we have just been describing, the *Tenia Cucurbitina* (b), which resembles it in many particulars

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(b) *Vermis Cucurbitinus*. Plater. prax. Med. tom. iii. p. 810.

*Tænia, Solium sans epine, Ver Cucurbitaire*. Andry, génér. des vers, c. iii. art. ii. p. 74.

*Tænia, Solium*. Linnæi, Syst. Nat. edit. 12. p. 323.

*Tænia á anneaux longs*. Bonnet, Mem. des Sav. Etrang. vol. i. p. 478.

*Vermi Cucurbitini*. Vallisnieri, nueve Osservazioni, p. 74.

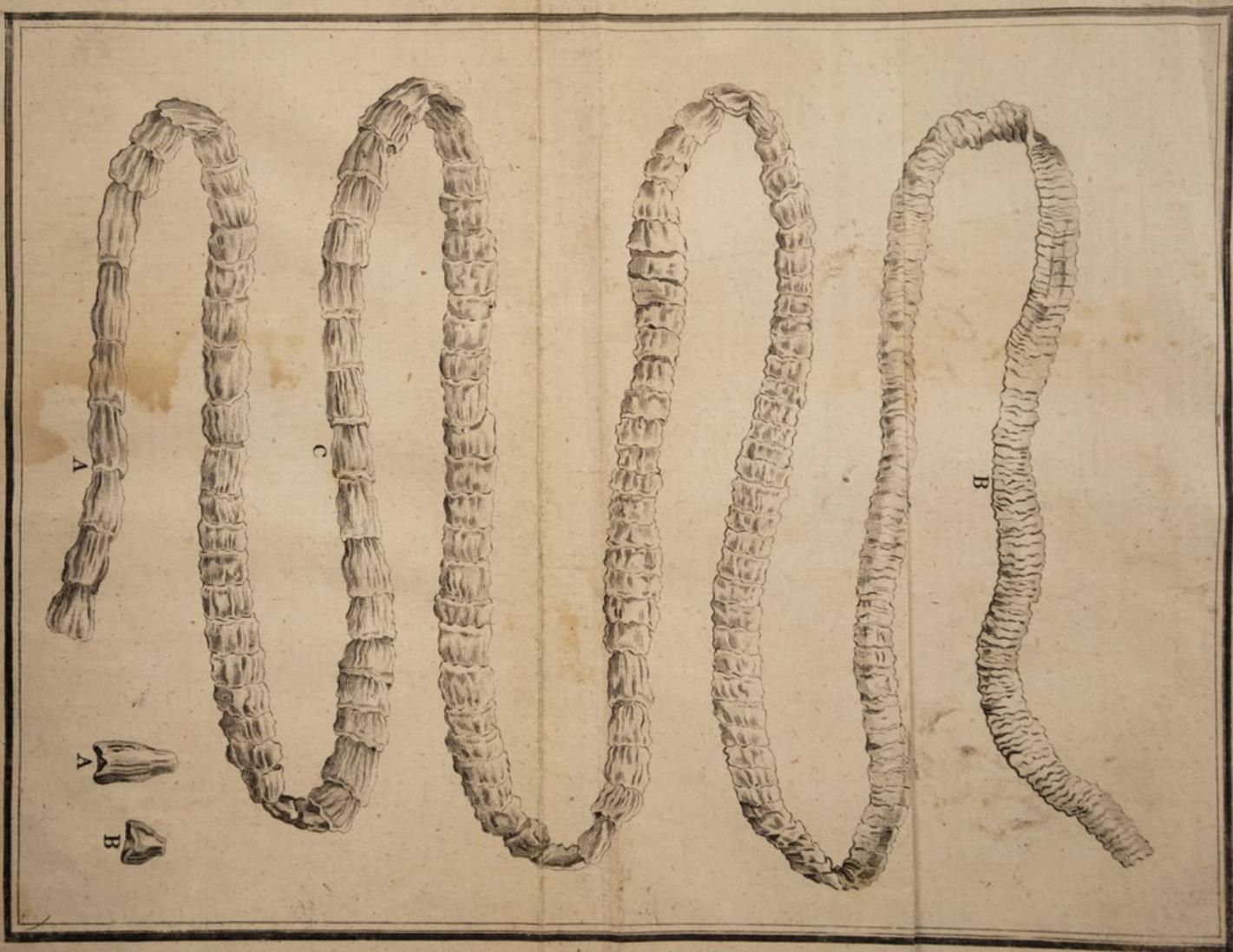
*Tænia osculis marginalibus solitariis*. Linnæi, Amoen. Acad. 2. p. 74. t. 1. f. 1.

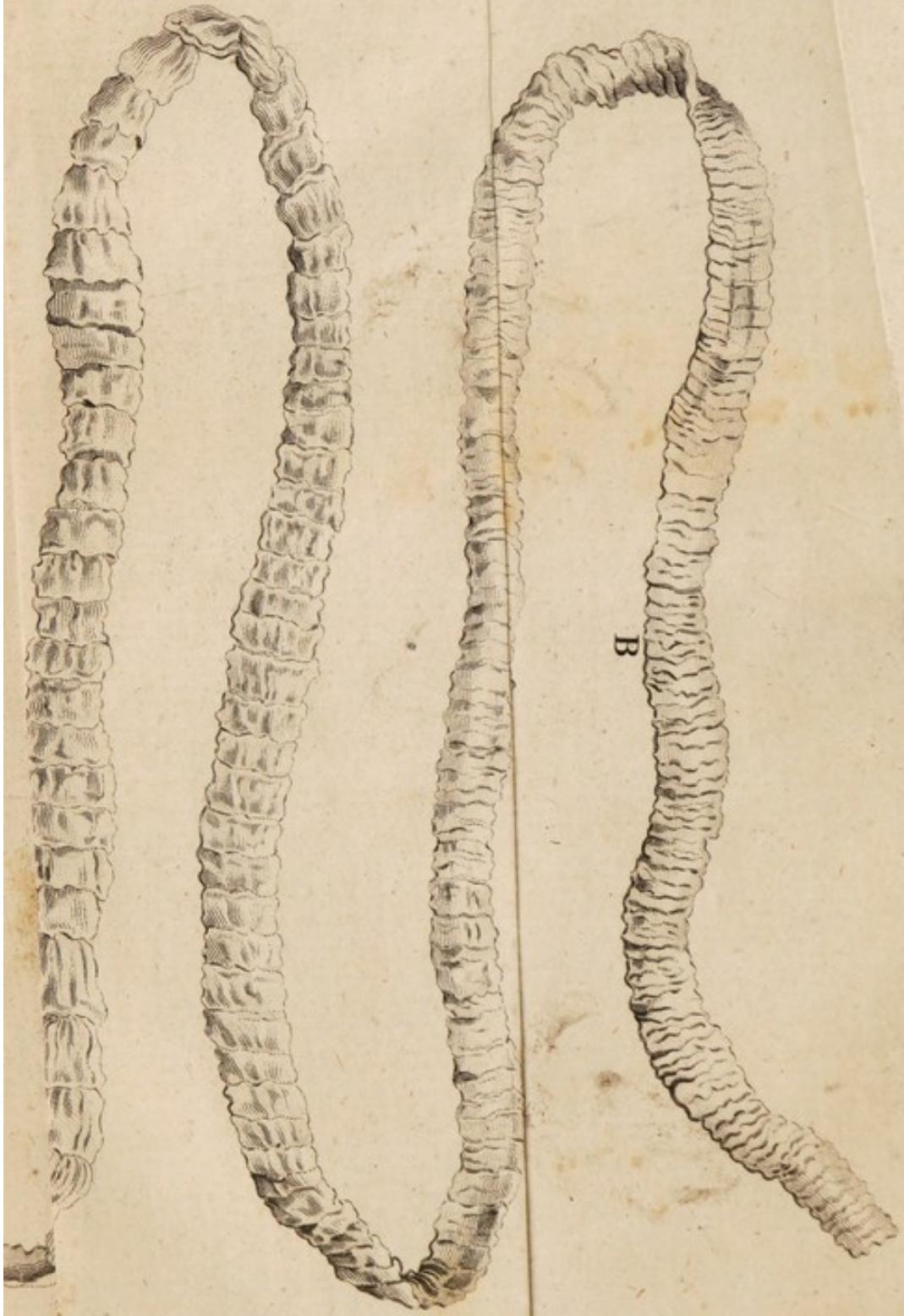
*Tænia secunda*. Le Clerc, Hist. des Vers. tab. i. A. tab. ii.

lars, is equally met with in the intestines of animals, and occasions the same symptoms. This last (*plate 2.*) will be distinguished from the preceding one, by having neither the appearance of a head, nor of a longitudinal vein: its rings are much longer than those of the solitary Worm, and are striated through their whole length, being furnished only with a little lateral prominence. . These rings are easily detached from each other, so that they appear as so many distinct worms, which have each of them life and motion, independent as it were, of the rest. Without examining this matter minutely, it will be sufficient to observe here, that the form of these rings when view'd together varies considerably. Those of the upper extremity (B) are much more compleat, short, narrow and thin, than those lower down; the rings gradually becoming longer as they ap-

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*Tænia Cucurbitina.* Vogel de Cog. et Cur. Corp. hum. Affect. p. 646.





proach the lower end. (c) These rings are in shape not unlike the seeds of gourd, and hence it is often called *Gourd Worm*, (*Verde Courges*) *Vermis Cucurbitinus*. Like the other it is several ells in length, and is never voided whole, but by detached portions which fall of themselves. The symptoms excited by the presence of this Worm being the same as those that are produced by the *Solitary Worm*, the inspection of the portions that are discharged, is the only sure way to ascertain its species. We may very properly add too, that, such an inspection is the only certain proof of the existence of any Worms whatever in the sick body, because the symptoms they excite and which we have related, may depend on other causes.

Methods of destroying and expelling these Worms have been sought for in all ages. The works of the ancient physicians abound with receipts in this way. Some of these are still employed, but with little success. Others are either wholly forgotten, or by being differently combined, form the basis of  
 some

some of the secret remedies which have been extolled for the cure of this disease. Amidst these there is one which seems to merit a particular attention. Madame Nouffer, of Morat in the canton of Berne, who has administered it for twenty years past, after the instructions and example of her husband, has had so constant a success, that she not only drew to her a great number of patients from Switzerland, but even from other countries and from the north of Europe, who went to her in search of a cure by the advice of the most respectable physicians. The prince Baratinski, of Russia, experienced the utility of it in October last, and discharged, the day after his arrival at Morat, a *Tenia* perfectly whole and four ells long. This Nobleman, six months after his return to Paris, perceived that he had a second Worm. Madame Nouffer at his request came from Switzerland to Paris, and gave him, under the direction of M. de la Motte his physician, a fresh dose of the specific, which in fifteen hours procured an expulsion of another *Tenia*, as entire as the first, and of much greater length, for this  
last

last measured eight ells. The same remedy was afterwards administered to other persons with the same success, and went so far as to mitigate without any disagreeable consequence, in a young person of a very delicate and irritable habit, some symptoms which had led her physicians to suspect the existence of a Solitary Worm.

His majesty having been informed of the celebrity and efficacy of this remedy, was induced to make the acquisition of it from Madame Nouffer; we were therefore directed by M. Turgot, comptroller-general of the finances, and by M. Trudaine, intendant of the finances, to examine and verify its effects, and to make it public.—In consequence of this regulation, Madame Nouffer has communicated to us the following account of it, written by M. Mottet, surgeon at Morat, to whom, for eight years past, she has confided her method of cure.

*An ACCOUNT of the method employed by MADAME NOUFFER, in the administration of her SPECIFIC for the TENIA, and the Regimen she requires to be followed during the Cure.*

**M**ADAME Nouffer requires of her patients no particular preparation till the day before they are to take the remedy. That day they are to avoid all aliment after dinner, till about seven or eight o'clock at night, when they are to take the soup No. 1; about a quarter of an hour after this, she gives them a biscuit and a glass of white wine, either pure or mixed with water; she even gives water alone, to those who have not been accustomed to wine. If the patient has not been to stool that day, or is naturally costive, (which is not usual however with patients in this way) Madame Nouffer

fer

fer directs the use of the clyster No. 2. after which the patient is to go to bed.

Early the next morning, about eight or nine hours after the supper of the occasions, evening, the patient takes the specific No. 3. in bed, and to avoid the nausea which this medicine sometimes occasions, it will be right for him to chew lemon or something else that is agreeable to him, or he may wash his mouth with any thing he likes, but he must be careful not to swallow any thing. He may likewise smell to vinegar, to check the sickness; but if, notwithstanding all his efforts, the nausea continues, and he is obliged to throw up the specific, it will be right for him to take a fresh dose of it, as soon as the sickness is gone off, and then he should try to go to sleep. About two hours after this, he must get up and take the purging bolus No. 4. at one or two different times, washing it down with one or two dishes of weak green tea, and walking afterwards about his chamber.— When the bolus begins to operate, the

patient is desired to take a dish of the same tea occasionally, until the Worm is expelled; then, and not before, Madame Nouffer gives him broth or soup, and he is directed to dine as is usual after taking physic. After dinner he may either lie down, or walk out, taking care to conduct himself discreetly, to eat but little supper, and to avoid every thing that is not of easy digestion.

The cure is then compleat, but it is not always effected with the same quickness in every subject. He who has not kept down the whole bolus, or who is not sufficiently purged by it, ought to take four hours after it, from two to eight drachms of Epsom Salt dissolved in boiling water. The dose of this salt may be varied according to the temperament and other circumstances of the patient.

If the worm should not come away in a bundle, but in the form of a thread (which particularly happens when the Worm is involved in much tenacious mucus)

mucus), the patient must continue to sit upon the close-stool without attempting to draw it away, drinking at the same time warm weak tea: sometimes this alone is not sufficient, and the patient is obliged to take another dose of purging salt, but without varying his position till the Worm is wholly expelled.

It is unusual for patients who have kept down both the specific and purging dose, not to discharge the Worm before dinner time. This however sometimes happens when the dead Worm remains in large bundles in the intestines, so that the fœces becoming more limpid towards the end of the purging, pass by it without drawing it with them. The patient may in this case eat his dinner, and it has been observed that the food, joined to the use of a clyster, has brought about the expulsion of the Worm.

Sometimes the Worm is brought away by the action of the specific alone, before the patient has taken the purging bolus;  
when

when this happens, Madame Nouffer gives only two thirds of it, or substitutes the salt in its stead.

Patients must not be alarmed by any sensation of heat or uneasiness they may feel during the action of the remedy, either before or after a copious evacuation, or just as they are about to void the Worm. These sensations are transitory, and go off of their own accord, or by the assistance of the vapour of vinegar drawn in at the nose.

They who have vomited both the specific and bolus, or who have kept down only a part of them, sometimes do not void the Worm that day. Madame Nouffer therefore directs them to take again that night the soup No. 1. the wine and biscuit, and if circumstances require it the clyster No. 2. if the Worm does not come away during the night, she gives them early the next morning another dose of the specific, and two hours afterwards, six drachms or an ounce of  
 purging

purging salt, repeating the whole process of the preceding day; excepting the bolus, which she suppresses.

She observes, that very hot weather diminishes in some degree the action of her remedy, she therefore prefers the month of September for administering it; but as she has not been always able to chuse the season, and has been sometimes obliged to undertake the care of patients in the hottest days of summer, she then gave her specific very early in the morning; and with this precaution she saw no difference in its effects.

The Solitary Worm is the only one on which Madame Nouffer's remedy has any certain effect; altho' it may be considered as being very useful against the *Tenia Cucurbitina*; she thinks it right, however, to observe that this last is much more difficult to expel, and that to effect a cure, the process must be repeated more or less frequently, according to the constitution of the patient.

After

After this declaration, the 23d of June was fixed on, for making the first trial with Madame Nouffer's remedy. That lady assisted by M. Mottet, administered in our presence, according to the process we have described; the soup, the injection, the specific and purgative bolus, to five different subjects; giving us notice however before hand, that only one of the five, had decisively the Solitary Worm, and that she proposed only this person for the trial of her remedy.

This patient was M. Vincent, a native of Neuchatel in Switzerland, who had lived three years and a half at Paris, with M. Mottet, a dealer in watches, in the place Dauphine, he was twenty six years of age, of a lively and delicate temperament, and somewhat thin. He was often subject to melancholy colics, diarrhoea accompanied with disrelish for food, and alternately with costiveness and good appetite, itching at the nose, together with a painful sensation about the hollow of the stomach, which extended to the right and  
left

felt like a belt. About five years before, he had for the first time, voided at Neufchatel a portion of *Tenia* about two feet long, after eating a quantity of grapes; three years after this, after suffering colic and diarrhoea, he voided several other portions at Paris. Five or six months afterwards, having taken a purge, he discharged two ells more, and after six other months he again voided about the same length of worm after a spontaneous diarrhoea. He was always obliged to break it, otherwise it continued to hang, or else returned again into the body (c). By the advice of a celebrated physician at Paris, he had taken every morning fasting, from the 8th of February to the 8th of May, a decoction prepared by

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(c) It was from this last sign and from what the patient easily recollected when he was shewn several *flat* worms, that Madame Nouffer proposed him as the only one of the five who had *certainly* the *true Tenia*,

D

boiling

boiling two ounces of the roots of the male fern, and a pugil of liquorice wood, in two pints of water till reduced to one; and at intervals he took 12 grains of the pilulæ Bontii.

The insufficiency of these remedies had determined him to go to Morat, when he learnt that Mrs. Nouffer was at Paris. He therefore took on the 22d of June the soup No. 1. then the injection No. 2, as did the four other subjects, and the next morning at six o'clock the specific No. 3, and at half past eight the bolus No. 4. About an hour after he had taken the bolus he had a stool; in the second, which was twenty minutes afterwards, that is at fifty minutes after nine, the Tenia itself appeared, and at a quarter after ten o'clock was completely voided. This Worm which served as a model for the annexed drawing (*Plate 1.*) was about three ells long; its body had towards its large end, along the longitudinal vein or canal, at different intervals, several  
white

white tubercles (I. *Plate 1.*) about as large as linfeed, together with several holes nearly square, (K. *Plate 1.*) which penetrated quite through it. It was very broad and thick, being nearly five tenths of an inch wide in its middle part, and one thirtieth part of an inch thick. At the other end, the body was lengthened out into a thin neck or thread, extending about twenty inches, and constantly tapering till at length its diameter did not exceed that of a common sewing thread. M. Vincent had two other stools after voiding this worm; we saw him some days afterwards in good health, and very well satisfied with his cure.

We will say a few words of the other four patients, although they were shewn to us by Madame Nouffer, the second and the third as having the *Tænia Cucurbitina*, and the fourth and fifth as being only suspected of having worms.

### Second Patient.

Mr. Olivau of Bourdeaux, had often voided for several years past, the ends of the *Tænia Cucurbitina*; about the end of March, Madame Nouffer's remedy had procured the expulsion of another portion about six ells long, in a bundle. He voided another ell the day he was treated under our inspection.

### Third Patient.

Madame Dumont of Metz in Lorraine had voided for six years past, sometimes ascarides, but more frequently, portions of the *Tænia Cucurbitina* of different lengths, which fell of themselves and alive. The day we saw her treated she voided another portion, together with some ascarides.

### Fourth Patient.

Madame Charles of Marcouffi, six leagues from Paris, had voided about  
three

three years before, several ends of a worm of the same kind, and about the end of May, a round worm. She had taken several medicines---she voided no worm of any sort by this treatment.

#### Fifth Patient.

The Sieur Daniel, goldsmith in the rue de la Huchette, had never voided any kind of worms, but he was led to suspect the existence of a *solitary Worm*, from the symptoms he felt in his stomach and belly, and from the great quantity of whitish and yellowish slime he voided with his stools, and which he considered as corrupted and dissolved worms. He voided much of this viscid slime on the 23d of June, but no worms.

It will not be amiss to remark

1st. That Madame Nouffer gave to the third and fourth of these patients only three quarters of the purgative bolus No. 4, which she had prepared at home, and then brought to the house in which  
the

the patients were assembled. She informed us that she had diminished the dose on account of the delicacy of these two subjects.

2dly. That not one of these five patients was more incommoded by their evacuations, than would have been expected after taking a moderate purge; and they were neither griped nor uneasy.

3dly. That they all felt, about a quarter of an hour after they had taken the bolus, and the third patient a little before he took it, a sensation as if something heavy was descending from the stomach to the lower belly. The first patient felt this sensation in so remarkable a manner, that he judged by the ease he felt soon afterwards in his stomach, and by the weight and embarrassment that took place in his lower belly, that his worm had quitted its former residence and was descended.

4thly. That all these patients, after taking the soupe No. 1, the night before, in  
a house

a house in which they were assembled, went to their respective homes to sleep, and there receive the injection No. 2, except the third patient who took one of pure water, and afterwards a second of oil and water. They all returned to the house the next morning where they took at the same hour the specific No. 3, and the bolus No. 4 without being in bed, nor did they lie down the whole day, except the third patient who reposed herself on a bed occasionally, but without taking off her clothes. This patient expected the catamenia, which appeared the same day.

5thly. That all these patients dined with a good appetite about one o'clock, had one or two little evacuations after dinner, but the next morning found themselves as usual.

This first trial having proved that the remedy was an efficacious one and in no way dangerous, we judged it right to repeat,

peat,

peat, ourselves, the same experiments on other subjects; to enable us to do this, Madame Nouffer gave us the following receipts, written by the same M. Mottet.

No. 1. The soup.

“ Take a pint and a half of water, two or three ounces of good fresh butter, and two ounces of bread cut in thin slices, add to this, salt enough to season it, and then boil it over the fire to the consistence of Pannada.”

No 2. The Clyster.

“ Take a small quantity of the leaves of mallows and boil them in a sufficient quantity of water, mixing with it a little salt, and when strained off, add two ounces of olive oil.”

No.

## No. 3. The Specific.

“ Take two or three drams of the root of the male fern, gathered in autumn, and reduced to a very fine powder, in four or six ounces of water distilled from fern or the flowers of the line tree (*d*). It will be right for the patient to drink two or three times of the same water, rinsing his glass with it, so that none of the powder may remain either in the glass or his mouth.”

The male fern prescribed by Madame Nouffer is the *felix non ramosa dentata*. C. B. Pin. 358. Tourn. Inst. 536. *Polypodium felix mas*. Linnæi, Sp. pl. 1551. Its root (*Pl.* 111. A.) is creeping, horizon-

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[*d*] Neither fern water nor line flower water are absolutely necessary, and common water may therefore be substituted for them. Madame Nouffer used common water on the 23d of June not having any of the others at hand, and she did not look upon this as an essential difference.

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tal,

tal, compact, loaded with a great number of appendages (B), placed very close to each other, and in a vertical direction. These appendages which are the remains of former stems (c), are of the size of the little finger, of a blackish colour without, and within of a yellowish complexion; they are surrounded at their basis by many membranous scales (D) and are furnished underneath with a tuft of hairy roots (E); from one end of the principal root, arise several stalks (F) which without ramifying, support opposite rows (G) of oblong, pinnated leaves (H); these leaves or pinnæ are longest about the middle of the stalk (I) and become shorter as they approach the summit (K). The lesser leaves or *pinnulæ* (L) are obtuse and dentated, and their under surface is loaded in the time of flowering with several little, round, yellowish packets (M), regularly disposed: the membrane which covers each of these, discovers as its sides open, a collection of antheræ which are at first yellow, and afterwards of a blackish colour when they have thrown off

off their feminal dust. These are the only parts of fructification that are known in this plant, as is the case with all those of the same genus, the female organs of which have not yet been discovered.

The large root (N) is to be reserved for use, together with its appendages; taking care to cut off the two ends, one of which (o) is too old and spongy; the other (P), too new and green. The part to be preserved ought to be firm and compact, black without, whitish within: it is to be carefully dried and powdered whenever it is to be employed.

The female fern, *felix ramosa major*, *pinnulis obtusis non dentatis* C. B. Pin. 357. Tournefort. Inst. 536. *Pteris aquilina*, Linnæi, Spec. 1533, possesses nearly the same properties as the male, according to many physicians. It is easily to be distinguished by its simple root free from appendages; by its branching stems; and by its pinnæ being entire, curling back on the inferior surface, and thus cover-

ing the antheræ which are disposed along the edge.

No. 4. The purgative Bolus.

“ Take of the panacea of mercury fourteen times sublimed, and select resin of scammony each ten grains; of fresh and good gamboge six or seven grains; reduce each of these substances separately into powder, and then mix them with some conserve into a bolus.”

This receipt, which Madame Nouffer derives from her husband, may be varied in the dose; and she has had for many years past the same success by reducing the proportion of gamboge to four grains: it was in this dose that she gave it in the bolus she administered to each of the five patients on the 23d of June.

Madame Nouffer who brought with her from Switzerland her remedies ready prepared, had used the weights of that country, which agree with those used in  
Germany,

Germany, where the dram is divided only into sixty grains. It resulted from this therefore, that to compose a purgative bolus of the same weight here, it would be necessary to add a sixth part to each dose, and put twelve grains of the panacea, as many of the scammony, and 4 grains six fourths of gamboge; the Paris dram being divided into seventy-two grains. We discovered too, that altho' Madame Nouffer, following her husband's instructions, had commonly used the resin of scammony, she had without knowing it, purchased resin of jalap in its stead, but had perceived no difference in the effects. She had complained indeed, that this resin when reduced to powder appeared of a yellowish colour, whereas, that employed by her husband, and which she of course preferred, became of a light green colour. As soon as we were sufficiently acquainted with these remedies, M. Cadet undertook to compose them before us, in the presence of Madame Nouffer and M. Mottet, who found them all very well prepared. The fern  
root

root that was used on this occasion was gathered in the last autumn and was well dried. All its useles parts were removed, and the remainder was carefully powdered. This powder was divided into several portions, each of three drams. The panacea mercurii was *mercurius dulcis*, seven times sublimed. The resin of scammony had been prepared the day before, by evaporating even to dryness a strong tincture of Aleppo scammony, made with spirit of wine. This resin when viewed in the mass was of a blackish colour, but when separated into thin laminæ became transparent and of the colour of hyacinth; being powdered, it appeared of a greenish white. We began this preparation by rubbing the scammony in a glass mortar, and then adding the *mercurius dulcis* and gamboge, till the whole was reduced to a very fine powder. It was then made into the form of an electuary by a sufficient quantity (from 48 to 60 grains) of the conserve of hyacinth. In this manner several bolusses were prepared, each of which

which contained ten grains of mercurius dulcis, the same quantity of scammony, and four grains of gamboge, Paris weight.

These different pacquets were sealed, and the soup No. 1. was given the same night at M. Cadets, to the patients who were to take the specific. They met together again the next morning, June 26, when they were treated in the way that has been described, and the result of this treatment was as follows.

#### First Patient.

Mademoiselle le Grand of the canton of Fribourg in Switzerland, aged thirty three years, and who had lived nine years at Paris with Mr. Naudon, rue du Four, Fauxbourg St. Germain, informed us that five years ago she perceived she had a *solitary Worm*, having voided a portion of it after taking a common purge, she never felt any itching at the nose, but she had frequent attacks of colic, and of a throbbing sensation

sation about the hollow of the stomach; to these symptoms were joined, disrelish for food; nausea, and frequent vomitings of a watery fluid; an almost constant diarrhoea; a frequent sensation of something that seemed to rise into the throat as if to strangle her, exciting at the same time an effort to vomit, and which ceased the moment she swallowed. Her menstruation was irregular, and she felt every month slight dizziness. Her stools were whitish, as happens after living much on milk. She had for five weeks past been taking an infusion of fern root, made with water in which quicksilver had been boiled.

At seven o'clock in the morning, we gave her the powder No. 3, in the full dose of three drams. About half after eight she felt her stomach as it were newly relieved; this was succeeded by a weight in the lower belly. At nine o'clock she took only three quarters of the bolus No. 4 ---She had been so accustomed to puke that we feared to give her the full dose,

dose, and this cautious mode of proceeding, together with our substituting the Paris weight for that of Germany, retarded the evacuations so much, that about eleven o'clock we found it necessary to give her two drams of purging salt; the same dose was repeated five hours afterwards, and at the expiration of another hour we prescribed the injection No. 2. She had dined with a good appetite at two o'clock, but about half an hour after receiving the injection she threw up all that she had ate. The vomiting returned several times during the rest of the day and night: her stools during that time were to the amount of eighteen or twenty; but they were all in very small quantity, and latterly they were frothy and of a whitish colour. The weight in the lower belly which began to be felt about an hour and a half after she took the specific, continued till about four in the morning. She had then for the first time a copious evacuation, in which she voided in bundles two well formed *Teniæ*, several ells in length,

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and about five tenths of an inch wide. Each of these worms was terminated by a tapering neck or thread. In one of them this thread was an ell long; in the other it was much shorter. These worms were soft, and very easy to be broken: this seemed to be occasioned by their long stay in the large intestines. This evacuation was followed by three other smaller stools, and the patient went home perfectly cured.

#### Second Patient.

Mrs. Cornu, a native of Baumont in the canton of Fribourg in Switzerland, aged thirty-eight years; and who has lived for six years past at Paris with the Marchioness D'Albert, rue Cassette, Fauxbourg St. Germain, discovered when she was only seventeen years of age, that she had a *solitary Worm*, having at that time voided large portions of it in a diarrhoea with which she was attacked during her lying in. — During the three following years she felt no inconvenience, but at  
the

the end of that time was attacked with a diarrhoea which continued almost incessantly during eighteen months. — Her food consisted wholly of milk and gruel. This was succeeded by violent attacks of colic which came on every two months: that which she experienced last winter, lasted a much longer time than usual, and was accompanied by a diarrhoea, during which, she voided five pretty considerable portions of Tenia. Sometimes her belly was bound for seven or eight days together, after which she had griping, watery stools, in which she evacuated much slime intermixed with pellicles of a dark colour. These frequent returns of diarrhoea have occasioned an habitual prolapsus ani. Besides all these symptoms, her menstruation has been irregular; she has sometimes suffered during a month or more, an almost constant nausea without vomiting; palpitations after the least motion; pains about the umbilical region, but none at the stomach; and itchings at the nose and rectum.

She took three drams of the specific the 26th of June at seven in the morning, and at nine o'clock a little more than half the purgative bolus. The causes which had retarded the action of the purge in the first patient, produced similar effects in this, and she felt nearly the same symptoms: she did not however feel her stomach relieved in the manner the former patient had experienced. About half an hour after one, she took two drams of purging salt; dined at two o'clock with a good appetite; and at four, received the injection No. 2. In the course of the day and the night, she had fourteen or fifteen middling stools without pain. She was disposed to sleep in the night, but was interrupted by several evacuations, four or five of which were more considerable than the former ones. In the morning it was discovered that she had voided two distinct *Tenizæ*. M. de Jussieu who had slept at M. Cadets, saw one of them at half an hour after six o'clock, alive and in motion. These two worms which were soft, and divided into several

several portions, were nearly an inch wide: one of them was of a greyish white; the other was somewhat thinner, and of a yellowish colour. The patient notwithstanding her evacuations, found herself exceedingly well. It is right to observe, that Madame Nouffer had given her some vermifuge remedies, three weeks before, with a view to discover by the evacuation, what kind of worm occasioned the complaints. — These worm cakes, the composition of which will be described in the postscript (No. 6) purged the patient during three days, nearly forty times each day, and weakened her very much, but without expelling any worm. Ten days afterwards, however, she voided some ascarides, and a portion of *Tenia* four or five ells in length.

### Third Patient.

The third patient was the *Sieur Allain* of the *rue Charpentiere* at Paris, of a pretty good habit of body. This patient

tient voided a portion of *solitary Worm* (e) about thirty years ago, after an attack of colic and diarrhoea. Since that time, he has constantly had a return of the same complaint four or five times every year, which has as constantly ended in the same manner, by his voiding portions of *Tenia*, which he has always been obliged to break. He has felt during almost the whole of this time a dull heavy pain about the umbilical region; together with sickness at the stomach; sometimes dizziness; languor and pain in his limbs; dislike for food; and now and then, itching at the nose.

He took three drams of the specific at seven o'clock in the morning, and the whole purgative bolus at nine. He soon found his stomach relieved of its ordinary weight, which seemed to be got down into

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[e] He was shewn a *Tenia Cucurbitina*, and a *Tenia Lata*, he was then certain that the worm he had voided, resembled the latter of these.

the lower belly. He felt a sensation about the rectum, as if it was stopped by something that prevented him from going to stool. In order to accelerate the evacuations, we gave him half an ounce of purging salt about noon, and as much more an hour afterwards. At two o'clock he ate with a good appetite, and at four received the injection No. 2. Another injection of warm water and three drams of common salt was thrown up at six o'clock. The evacuations were not in any great number during the day, but in the course of the night he had twenty copious stools, and at five o'clock the next morning he was relieved of the weight he had felt at the rectum. This was found to be the worm collected into a bundle. After this he had some other slight watery stools. The *Tenia* measured between five and six ells in length; its neck or thread was very long, and its body broad and thick. It was of an ash colour, and its long stay in the large intestines had softened it much. The thin part of its neck was broken off, and reduced to the consistence of

of paste. The patient was very lively and well pleased.

#### Fourth Patient.

While we were at M. Cadets on the evening of the 26th, with the patients whom we have just now mentioned, Margaret Schmidt, a native of St. Peterburgh, came to request us to give her the remedy at the same time. This patient who has been a year at Paris to learn midwifery, under M. Le Bas, surgeon in the rue Christine, is thirty-two years of age, and of a thin and delicate habit of body. She informed us that she began to void portions of Tenia, ten years ago, and that she brought away a piece ten days before she came to us. The symptoms she complained of, were an uneasy sensation about the stomach, which extended round her like a belt; head ach; dizziness; nausea; colic; pain in the loins; itchings at the nose; and sometimes, tho' rarely, diarrhoea. She said she had taken some medicines in Russia, but she re-  
mem-

membered nothing concerning their composition. At Paris she had taken nothing.

We directed her to the use of the panada and injection, and the next morning June 27th, at three quarters after six o'clock, she took three drams and a half of the specific; and at half an hour after nine, the bolus, composed of ten grains of mercurius dulcis, ten of the resin of scammony and five of gamboge, German weight (*g*). Soon after taking this bolus, she felt her stomach relieved, and a weight descending into the abdomen. At a quarter after twelve o'clock, she voided, without perceiving it, and in one bundle, two white *Tenixæ*, quite perfect, with their

[*g*] We preferred the German weight to that of Paris, in this last case, that we might see whether the activity of the remedy was retarded in the three preceding patients, from the dose being diminished; and our experience confirmed the truth of this conjecture; the addition, of a sixth part more, having brought away the worm in a much shorter time.

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thread,

thread, and resembling the figure of that given by M. Le Clerc in his eighth plate fig. 1. The shortest of these worms measured three ells and a half, its thread viewed through a lens, seemed to terminate in a little tubercle, not unlike the beak of a duck and of a reddish colour. The thread of the other *Tenia* when examined through the same lens, appeared to end in a spiral of two turns and a half, which was changed into a straight line, by putting the worm into spirit of wine.

Three other patients who imagined they had a *solitary Worm*, but whom we supposed to be affected in some other way, were desirous however of taking Madame Nouffer's remedy. It produced no other effect, than that of purging them smartly, and evacuating much mucus.

The Sieur Olivau one of the patients of the 23d of June, who both the times he had been treated before, had voided portions of the *Tenia cucurbitina*, brought away nothing in this third trial, to which  
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he had desired to submit himself. We therefore presumed that he was perfectly cured. The Sieur Daniel, another patient who desired likewise to repeat the same treatment, voided only a quantity of mucus, which relieved him much, and he was then convinced that his complaints were not occasioned by a Tenia.

These are the experiments we made to ascertain the efficacy of Madame Nouffer's remedy; and we are so well satisfied with them, that we fully give it our approbation.

This specific, however, is not to be considered as a new discovery; the efficacy of Fern in cases of Tenia having been known long ago. Theophrastus (*h*) pre-

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scribes

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(*h*) *Filix fœmina utilis contra interaneorum animalia lata, melle subacta, et contra tenuia in vino dulci cum farinâ hordeaceâ data.* Theophr. Histor. Plant. Gazâ interprete, lib. ix, cap. 20. — *Filicis maris*

scribes its root, in doses of four drams, given in water sweetened with honey, as useful in expelling flat worms. Dioscorides orders it in the same dose, and adds that its effects are more certain when it is mixed with four oboli (40 grains) of scammony or black hellebore; he particularly

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*maris (Pteris) radix lumbricum latum excutit, quatuor drachmarum pondere, cum aquâ mulsâ accepta, meliùs autem si cum scammonia, aut veratri nigri obolis quatuor quis exhibeat. Verùm eos qui accipiunt allium priùs edisse oportet.—Filicis fœminæ (Thelypteris) radices cum melle in eclegmate sumptæ latum lumbricum expellunt; cum vino verò potæ, drachmarum trium pondere, rotundum lumbricum excutiunt. Dioscorid. Mater. Med. interprete Cornario, lib. iv. Cap. 163.—Filicis (tum maris, tum fœminæ) radices pellunt interaneorum animalia—Utraque alvum solvit, primò bilem trahens, mox aquam, meliùs Tæniæ cum scammonii pari pondere. Plin. Hist. Nat. lib. xxvii. cap. 9.—Filix mas radicem habet maximè utilem, latum enim lumbricum interficit, si quis eam quatuor drachmis cum melicrato bibat. Galen. simplic. lib. 8. Princip. Medic. Ætius, p. 49. Oribasius, p. 608.*

requires

requires that garlic should be taken before hand. Pliny, Galen, Oribasius, and Aëtius ascribe this same virtue to Fern, and are followed in this by Avicenna, and the other Arabian physicians. Dorstenius (*i*), Valerius Cordus, Dodonæus, Mathiolus, Dalecham-  
pius, who commented on Dioscorides, or copied him in many things, all mention the fern root as a specific against the Tenia. Sennertus (*k*), and Burnet after him, recommended in similar cases an infusion of this plant, or a dram of its powder for

(*i*) Dorstenii botanic, p. 124.—Dodon. Stirp. Hist. p. 459.—Mathiol. Comment. in Dioscorid. p. 1289.—Dalechamp. Hist. Plant. p. 1222.—*Filix mas Germanicè Faren, sive Faren-kraut vocatur, proptèrèa quòd latos ventris lumbricos expellat, quos Germani Faren nominant.* Valer. Cord. Annot. in Dioscor. p. 76.

(*k*) *Commendatur imprimis filix, è quâ recenti aqua distillata datur, vel pulvis, drach. ss. pondere, infantibus; natu majoribus, drach. i; adultis, drach. iii pondere, cum aquâ galegæ, quæ sine ullis molestiis vermem et lenté et citò si velis, enecat.* Sennert. Pract. p. 420. Burnet, Thesaur. Medic. p. 648.

young

young persons, and three drams for adults. Simon Paulus (l) quoted by Ray and Geoffroy, considers it as the most efficacious of all poisons against the flat worm, and as being the basis of all the secret remedies extolled by Empirics in that disease. Andry (*génér. des Vers, pages 246 and 249*) prefers distilled fern water to the root in powder, or he employs it only in the form of an opiate, or mixed with other substances.

These are not the only authors who have mentioned the Tenia; many others have described this worm, the symptoms it excites, and the treatment proper to ex-

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(l) *Filix lumbricos longos ac latos enecat, quorum præsentissima pestis est—eamque inter secretissima sua secreta, adversus lumbricos habent et venditant Agyrtæ. Simon Pauli quadrip. bot. p. 301. Raii, Hist. Plant, vol. i. p. 149. Geoffr. Mat. Medic. vol. iii. p. 476.*

pel it. Almost all of them mention the fern root, but at the same time they point out other remedies as possessing equal efficacy. Amongst these we find the bark of the root of the mulberry tree, the juice of the *auricula muris* (m) the roots of *chamæleon niger* (n), ginger, zedoary; decoctions of mugwort, southernwood, wormwood, pennyroyal, origanum, hyssop, and in general, of all bitter and aromatic plants, &c. Some of them direct the specific to be simply mixed and taken in wine or honey and water; others join to it the use of some purgative remedy which they say adds to its efficacy.

(m) *Alfne myosotis sive auricula muris.* Lobel. 461. *Echium scorpioides arvense.* C. B. Pin. 254. *Lithospermum arvense minus.* Tourn. Inst. 136. *Myosotis Scorpioides.* Linn. Spec. 188.

(n) *Chamæleon niger.* Dioscorid. *Chamæleon niger umbellatus, flore cæruleo hyacinthino.* C. B. Pin. 380. *Carthamus aculeatus, carlinae folio, flore multiplici, veluti umbellato,* Cor. Inst. 33. *Carthamus corymbosus.* Linn. Spec. 1164.

Oribasius (*o*), Sylvius, &c. distinguish the specific that kills the worm, from the purgative that evacuates it, and direct them to be given at different times. Sennertus (*p*) gives a very satisfactory reason

(*o*) *Hæc brevissimo tempore lumbricos interimunt, quos postea medicamentum educit. Princip. Medic. Oribas. p. 329.—Lumbrici si adsunt, ægri sanantur, 1. Victus ratione.—2. Remediis necantibus lumbricos—absinthio, abrotano, menthastro, allio, radice filicis masculæ, radice graminis, &c.—3. Remediis enecatos expellentibus, ut aloë, absinthium, rhabarbarum—& (præcipuè pro lumbricis latis) pilulæ ex aloë, myrrhâ, croco, &c. — Sylvius, p. 442.*

(*p*) *Fortioribus medicamentis opus est ut interficiantur lumbrici latis. Quapropter etsi in teretibus purgantia cum interficientibus commodè admisceantur; præstat tamen in latis, nulla iis purgantia primùm admiscere, cum purgantia non sinant medicamenta vermes interficientia diù in intestinis hære, sed ea citò per alvum secum educant. Si verò priùs exhibeantur medicamenta quæ ipsum debilitent, totus rotundus factus ad pilæ figuram exit, et homo sanus evadit. Sennert. Pract. p. 420. Burnet, Thes. Med. p. 648.*

for

for adopting this method. If we give, says he, the purgative medicine and the specific at the same time; the latter will be hastily carried off, before it can have exerted its powers on the worm: whereas if we give the specific first, and thus weaken the worm, it will collect itself into a bundle, and being brought away by means of the purge, the patient will be cured. The cure will be more speedy if the primæ viæ have been previously lubricated. These precautions are all of them essential to the success of the remedy, nor are they neglected by Madame Nouffer in her method of treatment. The panada and injection she prescribes the night before, to lubricate the intestines and prepare the primæ viæ. The fern root taken in the morning, kills and detaches the worm: of this the patients are sensible by the cessation of the pain in the stomach, and by the weight that is felt in the lower belly. The purgative bolus administered two hours after this, procures a complete evacuation; it is composed of substances that are at once

purgative and vermifuge, and which even when administered alone, by different physicians, sometimes succeeded in expelling the worm. If this purgative should appear to be too strong, the reader will be pleased to recollect, that it produced no ill effects in either of the cases that came under our observation; and that in one of those cases, by diminishing the dose, we evidently retarded the evacuations. Regard however is to be had both to the age and the temperament of the patient, and the treatment should always be directed by a prudent and experienced physician, who may know how to vary the proportions of the dose, as circumstances may require. If the purgative is not of sufficient strength, the worm after being detached by the specific, remains too long a time in the intestines, and becoming soon corrupted, is brought away only in detached portions: on the other hand if the purgative is too strong, it occasions too much irritation, and evacuations that cannot fail to be inconvenient.

Madame

Madame Nouffer's long experience has taught her to distinguish all these circumstances with singular adroitness.

This method of cure is, as we have seen, copied in a great measure from the ancients; it may be possible to produce the same effects by varying the remedies; but the manner of applying them is by no means indifferent: we shall be always more certain of success, if the intestines are previously evacuated, and if the specific is given some time before the purgative bolus. It is to this method that we think Madame Nouffer's constant success is to be attributed.

Her remedy has likewise some power over the *Tenia cucurbitina*, but as the rings of this worm separate from each other more easily than those of the *Tenia lata*, it is almost impossible for it to be expelled entire. It will be necessary therefore to repeat the treatment several times, till the patient ceases to void any portions of worms. It must likewise be repeated if

after the expulsion of one *solitary Worm* another should be generated in the intestinal canal. This last case is so rare, that it has been supposed that no person can have more than one of these worms, and for this reason it has been named *solitary Worm*, which being once removed could never be renewed or replaced by a second: but our own experience has proved, that this notion is an ill founded prejudice, and we know that sometimes these worms succeed each other, and that sometimes many of them exist together. Two living *Tenixæ* have frequently been expelled from the same patient. We had three examples of this on the 26th and 27th of June, and to these we may add a fourth and still more striking instance related by M. de Haen (*q*), of a woman who voided eighteen entire *Tenixæ* at once. In these cases the symptoms are usually more alarming, and the appetite

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(*q*) Ant. de Haen, *Ratio Medendi*, tom. viii. p. 157.

becomes

becomes excessive, because these worms derive all their nourishment from the chyle. If too austere and ill judged a regimen deprives them of this, they may be expected to attack even the membranes of the intestines themselves. This evil is to be avoided by eating frequently. Such are the precautions indicated in this disease. The ordinary vermifuge remedies commonly procured only a palliative cure, perhaps because they were too often improperly administered. The efficacy of that which we now offer to the public, seems to be confirmed by experience. It was our duty by making it public as soon as possible, to fulfil the benevolent intentions of our sovereign, who desires that discoveries which promise to be useful to his subjects, may be made known as soon as possible.—We therefore passed slightly over the natural history of worms, and have dwelt more particularly on that part of the subject which was the more interesting to us, because it related to the health of our fellow citizens. So that after having described in a few words, the

two

two principal kinds of Tenia; and after having distinguished the character of each, together with the symptoms which denote their existence in the human body, we passed on immediately to the method of cure, and to an examination of the remedy proposed. The experiments that we made to ascertain its efficacy, and to point out the nature of its composition, have been described with a care and exactitude which may be thought perhaps to be unnecessarily tedious and minute. But we conceived that these details were the more important, as this specific for the *solitary Worm*, after having been known to the ancient Greeks, and recommended from time to time by physicians of the first distinction, was fallen, together with many others, into oblivion and even into contempt, because it had not always been given with equal success. This difference in the result seems to have arisen on the one hand, from the specific itself and the manner of administering it, not having been described with sufficient care; and on the other, from physicians

ficians having deviated too much from the practice of the fathers of medicine, without considering so much as they ought to do, that changes the most favourable in appearance, will often render remedies of no use, altho former experience may have proved them to be possessed of considerable efficacy.

Signed at Paris this 31st of August, 1775.

Lassone

Macquer

Gourley de la Motte

A. L. de Jussieu

J. B. Carburi

Cadet,

James Hartley devised too, that the  
the practice of the labors of medicine  
different things to touch as they ought  
to do, but changes the most favourable in  
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signed in Paris the 5th of August 1775

Madame  
Comtesse de la Motte  
A. de Julien  
J. B. Robin  
G. de

# A P P E N D I X.

## § I.

*A Letter from* DR. BLACKBURNE, *Physician at Durham,* to DR. SIMMONS.

DEAR SIR,

**Y**OUR late publication, promising a specific remedy for a troublesome and dangerous disease, entitles you to the best thanks of the public in general, and of the medical world in particular; and I am heartily glad that it has been so favourably received.

The experiments that are related in it cannot be more strongly recommended, than by the candour with which they seem to have been conducted, the authenticity of their vouchers, and the flattering good effects they have produced on the patients. I have no

I

doubt

doubt but they will excite the truly philosophical spirit of enquiry, which so eminently marks this age and country; and induce *us also* to take up the subject, and determine the standard merit of the medicine, by equally impartial trials.

Hitherto, you say, you have received no communications of this sort from any of our own countrymen; and therefore I have the less hesitation in sending you all the facts that I have been able to collect, since your treatise first turned my attention to the subject. Imperfect and few in number as they are, you must not expect much information from them: my end in sending them will be fully answered, if they encourage others to more accurate observations.

### CASE I.

The first patient I saw in this disease, was a labourer of between forty and fifty years of age. He complained of a constant swelling  
of

of his stomach and bowels; frequent nausea, particularly in the morning; sometimes gripping pains in his bowels, attended with loose stools; itching in his seat, and general languor. He had passed several small portions of a broad, flat, white worm; and had taken many medicines without relief; but he knew not what they were.

He was treated under the inspection of a very judicious physician, according to Mad. Nouffer's direction; and after the necessary preparations of the preceding evening, he took three drams of the fern-powder at six o'clock in the morning, and two hours afterwards the whole purgative bolus. I saw him about eleven o'clock, and found him complaining of excessive sickness at his stomach, and pains in his bowels; a cold sweat on his forehead, and more disordered than I have usually observed patients to be, from the use of the more drastic purgatives. He had had a loose stool about nine o'clock; and after that thought his stomach felt lighter, and that the pain was

lower down in his belly. About twelve o'clock he was relieved by a very large evacuation, and voided a worm of about ten feet long, answering exactly to the description of the *Tenia Lata*, or Tape-worm, in the first plate; only that it was not so broad, and the rings or joints rather longer, in proportion to the breadth. It tapered towards one end, till it was very small; the head could not be discerned by the naked eye, and it is probable was broken off; but it was not examined with a microscope. The man staid two or three days in the hospital, and then went away relieved from all his symptoms.

The second case fell under my own direction last month; is a case of the *Tenia Cucurbitina*; and as it was preceded by a long and tedious illness, which might perhaps have originated from the same cause, I shall give you the patient's account of himself at full length.

CASE

## CASE II.

R. F. fifty-four years of age, of a robust make, and originally of a strong habit of body, after having lived about four months in the island of Jamaica, in the year 1751, was seized with an intermitting fever, attended with oppression at his breast, and pains in his bowels, with great thirst, and his tongue covered every morning with a thick white fur, which was so troublesome, that he was obliged to scrape it off with a blunt knife; stupor and giddiness in his head, which lasted for a few minutes at a time, with fits of great depression of spirits for some hours together. For these disorders he took many medicines, without effect. In the year 1753 he complained of a pain and hardness on the right side of his stomach, which hindered him from lying upon that side. He was told that it was an enlargement of his liver; and took great quantities of mercurial medicines, but without relief, which always purged him violently for two days, and brought on a numbness

ness in one of his legs. He feels the same pain and hardness about his stomach when he gets cold: and it has frequently been relieved by electricity.

In the year 1755 he had a swelling that extended over the whole abdomen, and so painful that he could not walk, and hardly move, and attended with a dysentery; and the year after, a scabby eruption broke out over his arms and the inside of his thighs. These complaints, particularly the weight, pain and oppression at his breast, and pains in his bowels, continued, in a greater or less degree till he returned to England in the year 1774.

Soon after his return he accidentally discovered, in his stools, several pieces of a flat white worm, about three quarters of an inch long, which he took to be distinct worms; and amongst these, he says, he once saw one of the round worms, or *Lumbrici*. He immediately began a course of worm medicines; which

which, though they did not take away the symptoms, yet gave him some relief, and brought away several feet of the worm; which encouraged him, by the hopes of a perfect cure, to try a great variety of reputed anthelmintics; the chief of which were calomel;—dec. marrubii;—æthiops mineralis;—pulv. stanni cum rheo & corallinâ;—pulv. stanni cum croco & fabinâ;—spir. Genevensis;—&c.

Mercury had the same violent effects as before; and it is remarkable, that while he was taking no medicines he usually passed a few single joints of the worm every other day; but upon taking any of the above-mentioned, though they acted as purgatives that day or the next, he did not pass the joints, as usual, till the fourth day, when they came away in greater quantity, and along with them pieces from five to eight feet long.

He applied to me about the middle of March, and then complained of an uneasy oppression, and gnawing pain at his stomach,  
which

which was increased by turning to one side or the other as he lay in bed, and obliged him to lie on his back: it was very troublesome in the morning, but much relieved by chewing gentian root. He complained also of a weight and relaxation of his bowels, which obliged him to wear a belt to support them; had often feverish heat and thirst, sometimes a cold chill feel across his shoulders, constant nervous tremors, weariness in his legs, great depression of spirits, stupor and giddiness in his head, and his appetite voracious (he had already got your publication, and was preparing some of the root of the male fern from your plate and characters).

On the 24th of March, at six in the morning (after the usual preparations the evening before) he took the full dose of the specific, and two hours after, the bolus without the mercury, and with six grains of diagrydium instead of *res. jalap.* About ten he thought his stomach somewhat lighter; and having an inclination to stool, he neglected to take six  
drams

drams of Glauber's salt till four in the afternoon, which had no effect during the evening. He was averse to the injection; and went to bed without any evacuation, slept all night, and at eight o'clock the next morning (the 25th) repeated three drams of the specific, and two hours after it half an ounce of Glauber's salt. In a quarter of an hour after taking the salt he passed about eight feet of the *Tenia Cucurbitina*, fresh, as if it had not been long dead, and so tenacious, that it did not separate on being taken up by the middle: it resembled the plate very exactly; the rings or joints at one end were about three quarters of an inch long, at the other one-third. He had several loose stools in the course of the day, without any material griping pains; passed no more of the worm, but still felt the weight at his stomach.

On Friday the 27th, he repeated the full dose of the powder, and the bolus, with resin of jalap; and about eleven in the morning voided about ten feet more of a worm of the

same appearance as the former, with respect to the length, breadth, and tapering of the joints. The evacuation was copious, and attended with little or no griping pain. He found himself much lighter, and greatly relieved by this second dose; and being sensible that more was left behind, was easily persuaded to pursue the cure. Accordingly, on Sunday the 29th, I gave him two drams of the powder, two drams on Monday, and on Tuesday the full dose of three drams; and two hours after the same bolus as he had on the 27th, with the addition of six grains of calomel. This produced a very large stool within two hours, which was followed by several more in the course of the day, consisting of several pieces of the same kind of worm, from six inches to two feet long, great numbers of single joints, some whole, and some half dissolved, with a vast quantity of mucus. This bolus caused severe griping pains of the bowels, with prolapsus Recti; which had before been the consequence of mercurial purges. Since that time he is surpris-  
singly

singly changed for the better, relieved from all his symptoms, says he is quite another man, and enjoys better health than he has done for twenty years past.

## C A S E III.

Robert Hall, a weaver, aged forty-five, complains of a weight at his stomach, attended with a gnawing pain which is most sensible when he awakes in the morning, but ceases immediately upon taking a piece of bread, or any food. His stomach is swelled, and hard to the touch; his belly regular, with stools, sometimes loose, in which he has observed, for four years past, portions of a broad flat white worm, from three to eight inches long; though he had not the troublesome sensation in his stomach till within these nine months. Countenance pale, itching in his feet, pulse and appetite natural. He has taken no medicines, but has chewed chamomile flowers and tobacco for some weeks past, by which he thinks the gnawing pain at his stomach is become less acute.

On Wednesday April 1st, in the evening, he took the soup, and after it the biscuit and wine; and the next morning, at six o'clock, three drams of the specific, and the whole purgative bolus at eight. He had a copious evacuation before ten, by which he thought his stomach sensibly relieved: this was followed by several more in the course of the day; but attended with Tenesmus and violent griping pains in the hypogastrium, shooting through into his back, and mixed with a small quantity of blood. About seven in the evening he passed a portion of the *Tenia Lata*, about five inches long, tapering from one end to the other, and about one-eighth of an inch broad in the middle. His pains still continuing, he repeated the powder, with an ounce of Glauber's salt, the next morning; and about eleven o'clock, a common injection, which, in less than half an hour, brought away with it a vast quantity of thick, glutinous, brown-coloured mucus, mixed with dead skins, some blood, and excrementitious matter. He was immediately relieved from the severe griping pains;

pains; though his bowels and rectum remained fore for two or three days. He is now perfectly recovered, and has had no return of the pain at his stomach, or any other complaints.

## CASE IV.

Adelinda Marshal, aged fourteen. About two years ago, as she was gleaning in a corn field, felt an itching in her seat, and pulled away from her, with her hand, two or three joints of the *Tenia Cucurbitina*, or gourd-worm. Since that time she has parted with several more of the same sort, both in this manner and by stool. For some months past has complained of a heavy gnawing pain at her stomach, which is worst in the morning, and ceases on eating; appetite voracious; sleep interrupted with frightful dreams; grinding of the teeth; feverish heat and thirst; pulse 108; belly regular, with griping loose stools, mixed with joints of the worm.

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On the 24th of April last, by the advice of some of her neighbours, she took from fifteen to twenty grains of the powder of the leaves of the greater black hellebore, or fetterwort, and drank after it some mugwort tea; and in the course of that day passed, first fifteen feet, and soon after ten feet more, of the *Tenia Cucurbitina*. Two days afterwards the surgeon who attended her gave her a calomel purge, which operated with severe pains in the bowels, and brought away about twelve separate joints, and a small earthworm.

I saw her on the 28th of April; she complained much of fever and thirst, and of pain and swelling in her stomach and bowels. I ordered her to drink plentifully of barley-water, with a solution of G. Arab. and nitre for two days; and then finding the fever a good deal abated, I gave her three drams of the specific in the morning of the 1st of May, at six o'clock; at seven she had a small stool, with one joint of the *Tenia*, and a small earth-

earth-worm; at eight she took half of the purgative bolus, and in about half an hour afterwards vomited a large quantity of viscid phlegm; had several copious evacuations in the course of the day, but passed no more portions of the worm. Her stools were attended with severe tormina, and an increase of the feverish heat, thirst, and quick pulse. However, she was greatly relieved by these evacuations, slept soundly, eat more moderately, and had not that gnawing pain at her stomach; though she still complained of an uneasy weight there, and had sometimes a return of her fever. After a few days I was induced, by a continuance of this complaint, to repeat two drams of the specific, and to substitute, instead of the bolus, a draught of *Ol. Ricini*, dissolved with the yolk of an egg, and mixed in half a pint of barley-water, as well to increase the bulk of the medicine, as to make it less nauseous than the oil itself. This, though retained with difficulty, had a very desirable effect: it operated without inducing gripes, or bringing on the fever;

ver; and produced very copious stools of offensive contents, with a few joints of the *Tenia*. I repeated it a second time, with the same effect; and the girl now says she feels none of her former complaints, is chearful and happy, and thinks herself quite well; though it is probable that some of the worm may still be left behind.

From these instances, in which I have endeavoured to do all possible justice to Mad. Nouffer's method, by adhering closely to her directions, sometimes even contrary to my own judgment, I am of opinion, that the fern powder is a good medicine in this disorder, and worthy the further attention of the faculty.

It has been urged, as an objection, that the purgative bolus, and particularly the mercury contained in it, would have produced all the recited good effects, though the powder had never been administered. I confess, I am so far from being of this opinion, that

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*Extract of a Letter from* DR. DUNCAN,  
*Physician at Edinburgh, to* DR. SIMMONS.

—Since I saw your account of the Tenia, I have had occasion to treat only one case of the kind. A woman, for the space of thirty years, had at times discharged fragments of Tenia, and had tried a great variety of different medicines: by means of some of these remedies large portions of the worm had been brought away, but without effecting a cure. About the beginning of last September she applied at the dispensary. I ordered for her, a dram of the Fern powder to be taken at seven o'clock in the morning, and an electuary, consisting of three grains of calomel and as much gam-

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boge, with an ounce and a half of cream of tartar, to be begun four hours afterwards, and taken by repeated doses, at short intervals, till a catharsis was induced. The consequence of this was the discharge of different fragments of the *tenia lata*. After an interval of a few days, a second dose of the Fern powder and purgative were given; but no more fragments of the worm were brought away. Several months have now elapsed since those medicines were exhibited, and the woman not only continues free from all the symptoms which the presence of the *Tenia* had before occasioned but has never since been observed to discharge the smallest portion of it.

This is the substance of the case, the history of which I have given somewhat more at length in the volume of medical cases and observations I have lately published. A few days ago I received a letter from Dr. Ogilvy of Forfar, informing me of his having used this medicine with success. To a man who had been for  
many

many years afflicted with the Tenia, he gavetwo  
 drams of the Fern powder early in the morning,  
 and, four hours afterwards half a dram of ja-  
 lap and ten grains of calomel exhibited in the  
 form of a bolus. This was not productive of  
 the desired effect; but a few days afterwards  
 the same dose was repeated, and by means of  
 it, a Tenia brought away, seemingly alive, and  
 measuring about a yard and a half in length.

These are the only two cases, in which I  
 have heard of the Fern powder's being used  
 against the Tenia in this country. Believe me,  
 with a sincere esteem,

Dear Sir,

Your affectionate Friend,

ANDREW DUNCAN.

*Edinburgh, June 5, 1778.*

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*19. 3. 2*  


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*21. 0. 0.*

~~1:12:3~~

1:12:3

1:12:3

3:4:6

I think out the only two cases, in which I  
have heard of the Iron powder's being used  
in this country. Believe me,

Dear Sir,

Your affectionate Friend,

Andrew Duncan,

Nov 21 1787.

