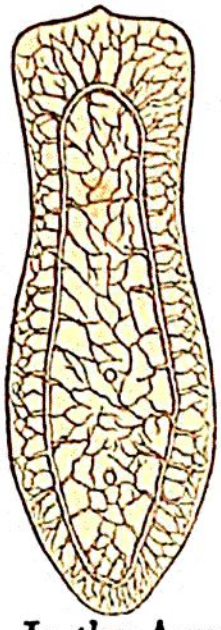
tinal canal, occurs in the *Planariæ*, which are a tribe of flat vermiform animals, in many respects allied to the more developed Entozoa, and appearing placed as an intermediate link between them and the Annelida. In many species such as the *Planaria nigra*, *fusca*, and *tremellaris*, (*Muller*,) Dugès observed two longitudinal trunks (Fig. 346*) running along the sides of the under surface of the animal, and joining together, both at their fore and hind extremities, so as to form a continuous channel of an oval form.† A great number of smaller vessels branch off from these main trunks in every direction, and ramify extensively, often uniting with those from the opposite side, and establishing the freest communications between them.

346*



In the Annelida which have a more lengthened and cylindric form, the principal vessels have a longitudinal course, but are differently disposed in different species. There is, in all, a vascular trunk, extending along a middle line, the whole length of the back, and especially designated as the *dorsal vessel:* in general, there is also a corresponding trunk, occupying the middle line of the lower, or abdominal side of the body, and termed the *abdominal vessel.* This latter vessel is sometimes double; one being superficial, and another lying deeper; the principal nervous cord, and chain of ganglia being situated between them. Frequently, there are found, in addition to these, vessels which run along the sides of the body, and are therefore called the *lateral vessels.* In every case there are, as we have seen in the Planaria, numerous branches, and collateral communications between the lateral, the abdominal, and dorsal vessels; more especially at the two extremities of the body, where the great mass of blood, which has been flowing in one direction in one set of vessels, is transferred into others, which convey

† De Blainville has described a structure similar to this in a Planaria from Brazil. Dict. des Sc. Nat. t. xli. 216.