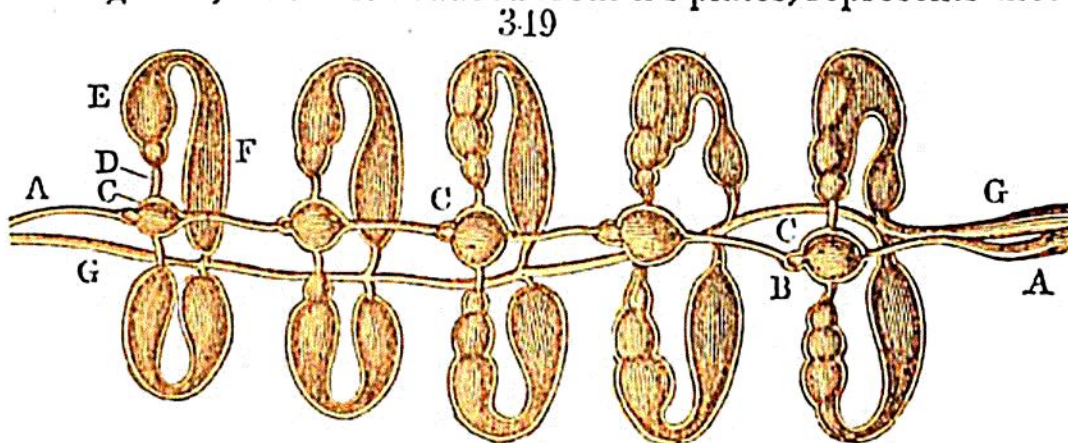


is distinguished from the annelida already noticed, by being more highly organized, and possessing a more extensive circulation, and a more complicated apparatus for the performance of this function. The greater extent of vascular ramifications appears to require increased powers for carrying the blood through the numerous and intricate passages it has to traverse; and these are obtained by means of muscular receptacles, capable, by their successive contraction, of adding to the impulsive force with which the blood is driven into the trunks that distribute it so extensively. These muscular appendages are globular or oval dilatations of some of the large vascular trunks, which bend round the sides of the anterior part of the body, and establish a free communication between the dorsal and the abdominal vessels: They are described by Dugès as consisting, in the *Lumbricus gigas*, of seven vessels on each side, forming a series of rounded dilatations, about twelve in number, resembling a string of beads.*

In the *Lumbricus terrestris*, or common earth-worm, there are only five pairs of these vessels; they have been described and figured by Sir E. Home:† but the most full and accurate account of their structure has been given by Morren, in his splendid work on the anatomy of that animal.‡ Fig. 349, which is reduced from his plates, represents these



* They are termed by Dugès, *Fuisseaux moniliformes, ou dorso-abdominaux*.—*Annales des Sciences Naturelles*, xv. 299.

† *Philos. Transact.* for 1817, p. 3: and Pl. iii. Fig. 4.

‡ “*De Lumbrici terrestris Historia naturalis, necnon Anatomia Tractatus.*”
Qto. Bruxelles, 1829.