

the *Annelidans*, I have introduced the Class here, but not as having formed any settled opinion as to its proper division and legitimate station.

The majority of this Class are, what their name imports, *intestinal worms*, or parasites, that have their station *within* the body of other animals. Some of them, however, do not answer this description, as they are found only amongst aquatic vegetables; of this kind is a little tribe, which Linné arranged with the leeches,\* to which they approach by the flukes.† The *Planaria*, in some respects, partakes more of the nature of a polype than of any other animal. Draparnaud, who paid particular attention to them, says that when young they have only two eyes, and acquire two more when adult. The head has no mouth; beyond the middle of the body, and on its under side, is a single orifice which serves for mouth, anus, and nostrils. This orifice answers to a long sac, which is the intestinal tube; from it sometimes issues a white tubular organ, which he regards as respiratory; this organ is doubtless the same with the retractile trumpet-shaped proboscis, issuing from a circular aperture in the middle of the abdomen, mentioned by Dr. Johnson in his interesting paper on these animals in the Philosophical Transactions, which he supposes to be a kind of mouth, when extended, equalling in length the animal itself.‡ This remarkable organ was also noticed by Müller and Mr. Dalzell. The circumstance of its receiving and extruding its aliment and respiring at the same orifice, is a clear approximation to the polype. A further confirmation of this is the power this animal possesses of spontaneously dividing itself for the purpose of reproduction. M. Draparnaud—after remarking that the species he described, which he calls *P. tentaculata*, and which is probably synonymous

\* Hirudo.

† Fasciola. Distoma.

‡ Philos. Trans. 1825, i. 254. t. xvi. f. 10.