

by suction; they sometimes produce fatal effects upon sheep. When only in small numbers, they doubtless, as well as the rest of the class, answer some good end; it is solely when they become too numerous that they occasion fatal diseases. Leeuwenhoek found eight hundred and seventy in one liver, and in others only ten or twelve. He says they occur in many kinds of quadrupeds, as stags, wild boars, and calves. He seems quite at a loss to account for their introduction into the livers of these animals, but concludes that, like the leech, their native element is water, and their eggs, swallowed by cattle when they drink, so find their way into the liver. This, of course, is all conjecture. Providence, who assigned to them their office, has also directed them to their station, but from whence, or by what route, we do not know certainly at present. A friend of mine who has kept a flock for many years, has observed that whenever they were turned into moist meadows in wet seasons, they suffered greatly from these animals; but that in the same situation, in a dry one, they were not affected.

The most celebrated of all the intestinal animals, are the Tape-worms, of which five species have been ascertained to inhabit man, besides whom quadrupeds, birds, reptiles, and fishes, are equally their victims. These are now divided into two genera, the common \* and the grape-headed tape-worms. The former is the most common in England, † but the latter ‡ seems the most gigantic of any. Sir A. Carlisle, who has a most excellent paper upon the former in the second volume of the Linnean Transactions, says that he has met with them from less than six feet long and consisting only of fifty joints, to thirty feet long with four hundred joints. But these are nothing compared with others of the latter, observed by continental writers. Bonnet mentions them as sometimes extending to the length of thirty ells,

\* *Tænia*.† *Tænia solium*.‡ *Botryocephalus latus*.