

to have proved, that however extended, the tape-worm is only a single animal. Whilst a living head remains attached to some joints, this creature maintains its station and keeps augmenting their number, but when any joints are broken off they appear not to form new heads, as Sir Anthony supposes, but die and are expelled from the body. Their nutriment is probably derived from the gastric, pancreatic, and other juices which perpetually flow into the stomach and intestines of the animals they infest; and they employ the tentacular rays as a mean of irritation to determine a greater secretion of these fluids.

It would be an endless labour to expatiate in this vast field where the rest of the animal kingdom is concerned; amidst, therefore, the various and strange forms that are destined to this office, I shall select only a few, beginning with one that affects one of the most valuable of our animal possessions, I mean the *Hydatids*,\* which particularly and often fatally affect our flocks of sheep, not indeed that they are confined to them, for they are found also in swine, deer, and oxen, and even in man himself.

These animals resemble the tape-worm in their oral organs, but their body, especially posteriorly, is vesicular. The lymphatic vesicles are what medical men call hydatids; they are found usually in the brain and in the liver of many animals. Their size varies according to the species, some are as big as the fist, and one was shown to the School of Medicine in Paris as big as a man's head. Their shape varies, but generally is somewhat spheroidal, their substance is composed of membranes one on another, more or less thick, and formed of circular fibres, visible only under a lens; they are half-filled with transparent lymph. They exhibit a peristaltic motion, which is often very lively.

Three species more particularly annoy our sheep. The

\* *Hydatis*.