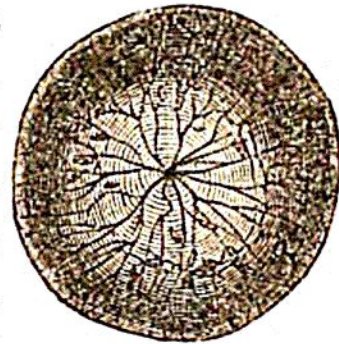


cerebral hydatid,* which finds its way into the brain of these poor animals and occasions the vertigo; and the vervecinet† and ovine hydatids,‡ which penetrate into their lungs and liver, and occasion the rot. It is usually discovered when a sheep is infested by the former of these pests, by its turning often and briskly its head on one side; when it runs very quick, and suddenly stops without any apparent cause; in a word, when it appears almost deranged. Though the progress of the disease they produce is slow, it is generally fatal. Five hundred have been counted in the head of a single sheep. The ravages, however, produced by this hydatid are nothing to those occasioned by the other two, which attack the lungs and liver, and cause the rot, by which, in some years, thousands perish.

Some worms are remarkable for their very singular forms or station. One that attaches itself to the gills of the bream looks like a double animal;§ and a kind of fluke,|| in great numbers, infests the ball of the eyes of the perch.

Though at first view the animals of which I have in the present chapter given some account seem to be altogether punitive, and intended as scourges of sinful man both in his own person and in his property, and their great object is hastening the execution of the sublapsarian sentence of death, yet this evil is not unmixed with good. Though fearful and hurtful to individuals, yet it promotes the general welfare, by helping to reduce within due limits the

Fig. 51.



Eye of a perch infested by the diplostoma.

Fig. 52.



Diplostomum volvens, magnified.

* H. cerebralis.

† H. vervecina.

‡ H. ovilla.

§ Diplozoon paradoxum, Fig. 62.

|| Diplostomum volvens, Fig. 52.