parts habitually in contact with water or other fluids, and possess the power of vibrating with great celerity, by which they produce motion and currents in the surrounding fluid. When a drop of water containing infusoria is brought under the microscope, it is seen that as these animals move along, every particle of foreign matter near them is agitated, a phenomenon indicating eddies in the water. When the infusoria remain stationary, the currents are more distinct, and evidently take certain directions, causing the particles of matter to run in a stream to and from the animal. If a very high magnifying power be employed, transparent filaments will be distinguished projecting from the surface of the animalcules, and moving with extreme rapidity. These are the cilia, which serve as fins to assist the animal in progression; and when it is stationary, impel the water in currents through the cavities and tubes on which they are distributed: these must not be mistaken for the tentacula or feelers, but may be considered as fringes of delicate hair, investing those instruments, and the internal surfaces of other organs. The cilia are so minute, that their outward form, position, and the direction of their motions only can be detected, their internal structure eluding observa-

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