

of twenty-four hours after the performance of amputation. The fly, in this state of its existence, proved a source of much misery to the wounded*. When maggots were found in a wound, the matter discharged became fetid and offensive. As they were employed entirely in feeding, they often destroyed a considerable portion of the muscular substance of the part in which they had been brought forth†. In cases of amputation, when they extended their course far into the muscular substance and cellular texture of the limb, they were the cause, not only of much local irritation, but of much constitutional fever. They consumed parts which were necessary to form a new bond of union. As a means of destroying them, spirits diluted with water, were injected into those situations which they occupied. Ve-

* See Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, No. LI. Art. v. Case of wounded Bladder, by J. Douglas.

† The *musca vomitoria* (flesh-fly) is said to lay 20,000 eggs. The larvæ of three of these flies will consume the carcass of a horse as soon as a lion. For a classification of larvæ, by Bergman, see *Insecto-Theology*, page 339.