

face. The under surface is also marked by dark lines which are wider apart on the anterior half than on the posterior half of the length of the body.

The mouth is situated on the under surface near the middle of the body. This feature is not readily seen in a living specimen, but is quite conspicuous in a specimen which has been dropped into dilute alcohol. The pharynx is then apparently everted as a white fringe of skin surrounding the opening. (Fig. 1824 a.)

The mode of locomotion is peculiar. The head seldom touches the ground, then only the lips, which are constantly changing shape, which are sometimes serrated, sometimes bifid. There is little of the sinuous movement so characteristic of the earthworm, but there is a muscular contraction which sends a wave backward from the head. According to a reliable authority, however, two rows of cilia, or fine threads, on the under surface of the body form the chief means of propulsion.

As to the position of this worm in the animal kingdom there seems to be little doubt that it belongs to the *Flatworms*, and on account of the presence of cilia on the lower surface of the body, and a three-branched intestine, it is classed among the *Triclad Turbellarians*, or more popularly, *Land Planarians*. This particular worm is known scientifically as *Bipalium Kewense*, a species indigenous to tropical regions, whence it has been carried to various countries with exported plants. It has already been found in hothouses in England, Germany, the Cape, and Sydney, Australia, but so far as I am aware, has not before been noted in Canada.

The Land Planarians are carnivorous, and feed on earthworms, slugs, wood-lice and insect-larvae. Lehnert states that "*Bipalium Kewense* pursues earthworms, seizes the upper surface of the anterior end by the glutinous secretion of its ventral surface,

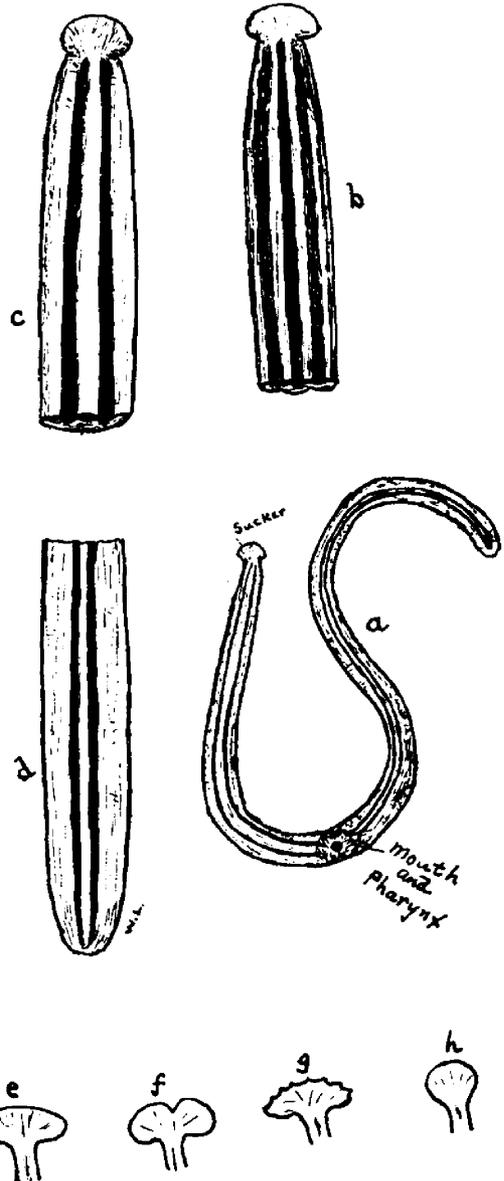


FIG. 1824.

- (a) Worm in alcohol, contracted, showing the mouth on the under surface.
- (b) Upper surface of front portion of worm, showing the three dark bands.
- (c) Under surface of front portion of worm, showing the two dark bands and the intestine between the n.
- (d) Under portion of hind portion of worm, showing the two dark bands closer together.
- (e f g h) Different forms taken by the head when worm is alive.