

- Fig. 24.—Transsection of appendage of eighth abdominal spiracle.  
" 25.—Lateral view of abdominal spiracle (1-7) covered with epithelial cells.  
" 26.—Dorsal aspect eighth abdominal spiracle.  
" 27.—Ventral " " " "  
" 28.—Third, fourth and fifth abdominal spiracles of pupa of *Ocotoma plicatula*.  
" 29.—Fifth abdominal spiracle of same.

## A PARASITE THE SUPPOSED CAUSE OF SOME CASES OF EPILEPSY.

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### *Gastrophilus epilepsalis*, n. sp.

Larva: Length, 1-12 inch; of the shape shown in the accompanying figure (Fig. 30), with twelve joints besides the head, or thirteen joints; head rounded, with two brown-black hooks, the side view of the cut showing only one of them; head a little longer than broad, rounded; the first incisure with a patch of bristles below the hooks, but not anywhere else; incisures 2 and 3 without bristles; incisures 4 to 12 armed with several rows of minute bristles, all very short except those on 12, pointing backward; joint 13 rounded. Extending back from the hooks and of the same colour, only in places paler, is a marking that seems to be a chitinous support for the hooks, beneath the cuticle. Colour a dirty yellowish white.



FIG. 30.

Usually it is not wise to describe a species as new from a larva, but for the following reasons it seems best in this case. Last November, at the meeting of the Southern Illinois Medical Association, in Chester, Ill., Doctor H. C. Adderly, of that town, reported to the Association a case under his charge of a boy, then 10 years old, who had been subject to epileptic spasms for four years, often having as many as twenty spasms in twenty-four hours. Upon producing a free catharthesis (the general condition of the bowels being constipated), he noticed that the excreta was "literally alive" with