

to is the first and only one I have had the management of during my now somewhat lengthened professional career; and even this could hardly prove its origin to have been in the Townships, as the man (the owner of it) had only recently put foot on Canadian soil after a prolonged residence in the Town of Milton, Vermont. Hence I conclude this species of parasite is not of such frequent occurrence in the Townships as it is in some other portions of the world, and I choose the case.

I am not aware that there has been of late any additions made to previously existing literature upon this feature of the subject of Helminthics and shall not mention any point, in connection with it, not believed to be necessary to an intelligent recital of the treatment of the case, as well as the results obtained.

About a couple of months ago, a man, aged about sixty years, and of fairly healthy appearance, consulted me with reference to a supposed digestive trouble manifesting itself by frequent colicky pains in the intestines, of a severe character. Otherwise, he said, the functions of the body were being carried on as well as he could desire. Without in any degree suspecting that, after these long years of waiting, I had been suffered to contend with a case of genuine tape-worm, I gave him a full dose of compound cathartic pills, and told him to return in two or three days. When he came back, however, he was the bearer of a vial that contained several fleshy-looking substances that he had voided, and which, unenlightened as was, I, your humble servant, I had no difficulty in recognizing as zooids or links of a tape-worm. The good man seemed a little frightened at first on seeing what had escaped from him (or rather what he had escaped from); but after a full explanation that it was neither a serpent nor a flattened cord, he became more hopeful (and asked for a little nourishment). With the exception of some of the remedies of doubtful reputation, it may well be suspected, from what I have said before, that I had nothing to give him. But I was equal to the occasion (as I am sometimes). In order to gain time to get a prescription from the druggist, I gave him a very highly colored liquid in a very highly ornamented vial, told him to follow directions minutely, and put in an appearance in four or five days again. The record of the Male Fern seemed to me to be the best. In fact, pumpkin seeds

were not to be thought of. They were out of season, and too democratic. Filix Mas sounded well, and besides it had the advantage of being of purely British origin, and it did the work well, as you will presently see. To be more serious, however, I caused to be put up *three* doses of the following:

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| R | Fl. Ext. Filicis | 3-ss |
| | Spts. Terebinth. | 3 ss |
| | Ovi vitelli T | Misce |

et adde aquæ et syrupi q. s ad 3 ij—Fiat haustus, mane sumendus. He was directed to take a full dose of castor oil on retiring at night, and, in the morning, after a thorough evacuation of the bowels had been secured, to take *one* of the three doses as above, and carefully preserve every thing suspicious that passed until I came and examined them.

From all I had heard and read of tape-worm, I had been led to believe that it was only after specially skilled, professional search that the head could be found, if expelled at all; and as I knew its discovery was a *sine qua non* to success, I kept my eyes wide open.

Whether my case was an exceptionally easy one to conduct or not, my previous experimental acquirements do not warrant me in giving an opinion, or, whether I even obtained the prize at all, it must be admitted is of doubtful accuracy.

But whatever may have been my doubts and fears as to getting that part of the worm, which should contain whatever brain material he possessed, they proved, I fancy, like so many other things mundane, to be without foundation and illusory. The good-natured man's fourteen years old granddaughter, to whom I had previously parted with a large amount of my own knowledge, was possessed of the peccant intruder, brains and all, before the man at the helm reached the field of conflict. There did not seem to be much doubt of it, but it must be remembered that neither the young lady nor myself were put under oath.

These Entozoa are said to have grown sometimes to enormous lengths—even as much as one hundred yards having been reported in one case; but in the instance under consideration, although I did not arrange the joints or zooids in line, so as to measure or count them, I am not disposed to place the length beyond four or five yards. Then again, we have good authority for urging the necessity of providing against the possibility of there being several such organisms in the same