

convinced, from investigating the history and symptoms complained of by those individuals I had seen, that there were in Ireland at least two distinct varieties of tape-worm, which I had before always confounded together, and failed to determine their specific characters with that strict carefulness the question demanded, and there were grounds for concluding these would prove to be the common *T. solium*, and its more formidable relation, *T. mediocanellata*, a correct description of which we owe to Kuchenmeister. My surmises respecting the latter worm received ample confirmation a few days since, by a gentleman bringing me the specimen now recorded, which, so far as I can ascertain, is the first recognized example of *T. mediocanellata* of indigenous origin.

The host of this parasite, a gentleman in the prime of life, of robust frame, in perfect health and good condition, consulted me for an eruption of isolated patches of psoriasis scattered over his limbs and body. He also stated that for at least fourteen years past, and possibly for a longer period, he was infested with tape-worm. Its presence caused him great annoyance, as the mature isolated joints of the animal passed from him at irregular intervals, with or without alvine dejections, several of them in succession escaping whilst he was walking about his occupations, or when warm in bed. He had endeavored to get rid of his unwelcome guest by using the ordinary round of vermifuges, and related his experience with Kesso and Kamela. He preferred the Kamela, its dose being smaller and therefore easier taken, and it had the advantage of being tasteless; he also thought it more effectual, for he succeeded by its means in removing (besides a few small detached fragments) one continuous mass of adhering joints, fifteen feet in length, which he measured after its expulsion, whilst still alive and in motion.

He was anxious to have his pest thoroughly expelled, and volunteered, with this design, to carry out any reasonable directions. I recommended him to take early in the morning a full dose of castor-oil, and use for that day soft food and soup, &c., to expose the animal more completely to the action of the special vermifuge selected. This consisted of ethereal extract of male fern, which he took, fasting next morning, made into emulsion with yolk of egg, and flavoured with essence of peppermint. It operated briskly, and expelled quite dead, a good specimen of *T. mediocanellata*, which measured seven feet in length in one unbroken piece, in addition to some small segments and detached joints belonging to the upper portion of the animal. The head was not obtained, it seldom comes away with the joints after medical treatment, at least far less often than is supposed. As these creatures contract in size considerably after death, its length when living must have reached eight or perhaps nine feet.