

TAPE-WORM EXPELLED BY TURPENTINE.

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Dr. Freeman, of Brooklyn, presented a tape-worm sixteen feet in length (about four feet of which was in fragments), which had been passed by an English girl, aged thirteen years. She had been treated for tape-worm five or six months ago in England, but without any gratifying result. On the 3rd of October, having fasted for twenty-four hours, two ounces of fluid extract of male fern were administered, followed the next morning, she still fasting, by an ounce of castor-oil and a drachm of oil of turpentine. This latter dose was repeated during the day. No portions of the worm were passed. She was let alone until the following Friday, when two ounces of oil of turpentine, in half a teacupful of milk, were given, and in the course of three or four hours afterwards twelve feet of the parasite came away, together with forty or fifty small pieces. The case was interesting, as proving the efficacy of the old-fashioned remedy, oil of turpentine. She suffered no bad symptoms from the large dose of turpentine, but the small ones produced more or less strangury.

Dr. Fennell remarked that had the patient died, there would have been no difficulty with a coroner's jury in arriving at a verdict of death from an overdose of turpentine. The remedy, nevertheless, seemed from the results of the case to be well chosen.

Dr. Whitall recalled a case in which he had administered on one occasion an ounce of pumpkin-seed in half-a-pint of water, and in which thirty-eight feet of the worm had been discharged alive. Finding it necessary, three months after, to treat the patient again for the same trouble, he administered two drachms of the essential oil of *felix mas*, followed the next day by two ounces of castor-oil. This resulted in the passage of four feet of the *tenia*, dead.

Dr. Auchison had some time ago asked Dr. Squibb what was the best remedy for tape-worm, and the reply was, two ounces of oil of turpentine. The remedy in large doses acts as a purgative, but in small quantities, as in Dr. Freeman's case, was apt to produce strangury.—*New York Pathological Society's Report.*