

Further Observations on Planariæ. By J. R. Johnson, M.D. F.R.S.
Read March 10, 1825. [*Phil. Trans.* 1825, p. 247.]

In an account of some species of *Planariæ*, published by Mr. Dalzell of Edinburgh, that gentleman observed, that in one of these insects which he had intentionally wounded a little below the head, an unnatural prominence soon appeared at the wounded part, which in about four weeks assumed the characters of a new head, and was soon after very distinctly recognised as such.

Anxious to verify so singular a result, Dr. Johnson took 100 active *Planariæ cornutæ*, and made in each an incision on the side of the body. In one instance only he obtained the desired result, in most of them the wounds healed. In some, præternatural excrescences took place, and others separated at the place of incision to become two animals. One only acquired a double head. It appears, therefore, to be so unusual an occurrence as to deserve the attention of the Royal Society.

Dr. Johnson proceeds to some additional observations respecting the propagation of certain species of this curious tribe of insects. In regard to the *Planariæ cornutæ*, he found that they were more rapidly reproductive by the detachment of fragments when kept singly than when several are preserved in the same vessel, owing, he says, to the necessity then existing of continuing the species; hence he also infers, that the regenerative process is voluntary. The *Planariæ* kept together, ultimately threw off as many reproductive portions as the others, and these he thinks may probably amount to about 20 in eight months for each insect. The smallest visible portion detached from the tail becomes a perfect *Planaria*, but in this case the animal is so small as to suggest the probability of the parent animal being viviparous.—Dr. Johnson concludes this paper with some observations on the *Planaria nigra*, the details of which are illustrated by an annexed drawing. Like the species formerly described, it is furnished with an abdominal proboscis, by which it takes its food; it is oviparous, each producing from 2 to 6 young; it does not spontaneously divide into regenerative portions like the *Planaria cornuta*, but has an equal power of repairing mutilated parts.

On the Influence of Nerves and Ganglions in producing Animal Heat.
By Sir Everard Home, Bart. V.P.R.S. presented by the Society for the Improvement of Animal Chemistry. Read March 17, 1825.
[*Phil. Trans.* 1825, p. 257.]

Sir Everard begins this paper by adducing several instances of the existence of brain and nerves in animals, which however have no power of generating heat; this is the case with the Oyster, the Snail, and the Water-muscle. In the Leech, the Earthworm, and the insect tribe generally, the nervous filaments are united at intervals by ganglions; and where these exist, the temperature exceeds that of the atmosphere when below 56°, though in very different degrees, the