one occasion, the excrements of a patient who died of typhus abdominalis with ulceration of the ileum. Although in these cases we did not meet with the crystals in a remarkably larger quantity, we do not lay much weight on the circumstance. In the dead bodies of patients who laboured under very different diseases, crystals may be found, which cannot be detected in the fresh excrements. But from the renewed observations of Professor Schœnlein, it appears, that crystals occur more frequently in the alvine evacuations of typhus, than in any other kind of excrements."

ART. VIII.—*Discovery of ciliary Motions in the Cavities of the Brain.* By PURKINJE.

"I HAVE succeeded at last in discovering the Ciliæ and their motions in the ventricles of the brain in the mammalia. Last summer, while examining the Chordæ Bergmanni, I perceived on fine sections of the epithelium, a structure resembling the ciliary membranes, and suspected that this epithelium possessed a similar function. I thereupon made numerous investigations with this object in view, but without any result, until the 23d of May, when I succeeded in discovering the ciliary motions in a state of the most beautiful activity, on the edge of the Tenia Hippocampi, in the tolerably mature foetus of a sheep thirty hours after slaughter. They now appeared quite distinct over all the windings of the ventricles, and they could be plainly distinguished, even where they did not appear in motion. I followed the motions without difficulty through the third ventricle to the infundibulum, to the olfactory tubercles, and finally through the aqueduct of Silvius into the fourth ventricle. Here the motion ceased, but the ciliæ were still distinctly observable, although somewhat shorter than in the foregoing situations."

"The ciliæ are proportionably long, pointed, (not ragged as in the bronchial tubes,) and exhibit a whip-like vibration; we perceive also a layer of granules to which they are attached,

and which are very easily rubbed off without destroying the continuity of the epithelium. The other day I examined the brain of a sheep, in which they could also be perceived with great facility. They have been seen likewise by Dr. Valentin in the tolerably matured fœtus of a sow; in another fœtus of the same description, at a much earlier period, they could not be distinguished: probably the parts are too delicate for our clumsy instruments. On the whole, I have perceived from these few examinations, that the ciliæ found in the ventricles of the brain possess a finer degree of sensibility, and are much more easily destroyed than those of any other organ; I have not been able to discover them in the brain of a sparrow, or of a carp, which I examined, but cannot, on this account, draw any conclusions as to their non-existence. I could not detect any traces of them in a diseased human brain which was sent me: probably they are very transient, (as appears to be ascertained from the female ovary, and the mucous membrane of the nose), but as easily reproducible. I could not find any ciliæ in the membrane of the choroid plexus; but I have made long since a very interesting observation on this membrane. The whole plexus is covered by a peculiar matter, like the granular substance of the ganglions; and composed of the most regular granules, each of which contains a small corpuscle in its centre. This membrane appeared to me at the time as belonging to the nervous tissues, although at present I see many reasons to look upon it as epidermal.