

The lamprey has no other intestines than one great bowel, running from the mouth to the vent, wide in the middle, but narrow at both ends.

The simplicity of the lamprey's appetite perfectly corresponds with that of its conformation; for its food seems to be either slime and water, or such small water insects as are scarcely perceivable. When it comes into our rivers, it is hardly perceived to eat any thing; though in its native element, the sea, perhaps its appetite may be more active.

The preparation made by the lampreys for spawning is a remarkable circumstance in their natural history. Previously to their depositing their spawn, they make holes in the gravelly bottom of rivers; and if they meet with a stone of considerable magnitude, their power of suction is highly serviceable, and successfully exerted in removing and throwing it out. Like other flat fish, the lampreys are produced from eggs, but are not, like most others, left to chance for their maturation; for the female remains near the place where they are excluded, and continues with them until they come forth. One single brood is the extent of the female's fertility; and according to Rondoletius, she may be frequently
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