stomach; and the stomach is continued into a regular intestine, which takes two turns in the cavity of the body, before it terminates.

The alimentary tube in the lower animals frequently exhibits dilatations in different parts: these, if situated in the beginning of the canal, may be considered as a succession of stomachs; while those that occur in the advanced portions are more properly denominated *the great intestine*, by way of distinction from the middle portions of the tube, which are generally narrower, and are termed *the small intestine*. We often see blind pouches, or *cæca*, projecting from different parts of the canal; this is the case with the intestine of the *Aphrodita aculeata*, or sea-mouse. The intestine being generally longer than the body, is obliged to be folded many times within the cavity it occupies, and to take a winding course. In some cases on the other hand, the alimentary tube passes in nearly a straight line through the body, with scarcely any variation in its diameter; this is the case with the *Ascaris*, which is a long cylindric worm; and nearly so with the *Lumbricus terrestris*, or earthworm. In the *Nais*, on the contrary, as shown in Fig. 259, the alimentary tube presents a series of dilatations, which from the transparency of the skin, may be easily seen in the living animal. The food taken in by these worms is observed to be transferred from the one to the other of its numerous stomachs, backwards and forwards many times before its digestion is accomplished.

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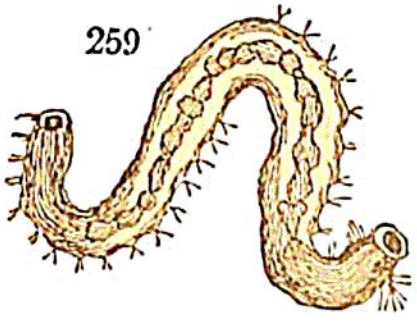

The stomach of the *Leech* is very peculiar in its structure: its form, when dissected off, and removed from the body, is shown in Fig. 260. It is of great capacity, occupying the larger part of the interior of the body; and its cavity is expanded by folds of its internal membrane into several pouches (c, c, c.) Mr. Newport, who has lately