

The Parasites of Elephants. By T. SPENCER COBBOLD, M.D.,
F.R.S., F.L.S., Foreign Mem. Roy. Agric. Acad. Turin.

[Read April 7, 1881. Abstract.]

THIS contribution, which will be published in the Society's 'Transactions,' with appropriate illustrations, deals with fourteen species, of which twelve are entozoal. The first recorded (*Ascaris lonchoptera*) was taken from a captive animal destroyed at Geneva on account of madness. Two species were described by the late Dr. Baird, but some remarkable peculiarities of structure in *Sclerostoma sipunculiforme* and *S. clathratum* had been overlooked. Four new Nematodes are added (*Strongylus foliatus*, *S. falcifer*, *Dochmius Sangeri*, and *Filaria Smithii*). The last species and one of the Strongyles were found in singular growths or abodes formed within the walls of the elephant's stomach. Three new species of *Amphistoma* (*A. Hawkesii*, *A. ornatum*, and *A. papillatum*) are described. In the fresh state these beautiful little parasites are transparent and of a bright pink colour. Many new particulars are given in respect of the fluke (*Fasciola Jacksoni*) described to the Society in 1869. The larval state of *Gastrophilus elephantis* is also fully noticed. Specimens of this 'bot' were exhibited from an African elephant shot by Dr. Kirk. Remarks were also made respecting the curious parasitic ova observed by Mr. Selater and Prof. Flower on tusks now preserved in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons. After referring to *Hæmatomyzus* and *Homopus* of Piaget and Mégnin respectively, the paper concluded with a record of facts pointing to the destructive effects of the flukes, roundworms, and Amphistomes. The epidemic affecting Sanger's performing elephants was attributable to this cause.



Cobbold, T. Spencer. 1881. "The Parasites of Elephants." *The Journal of the Linnean Society of London. Zoology* 15(87), 333–333.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1881.tb00368.x>.

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