

even to the fifth progeny; afterwards a fresh impregnation must take place.

The male insects, like male hawks, are always smaller than the females; in the propagation of their species, they are remarkably careful; so that it is with the greatest difficulty that flies are kept from depositing their eggs on fresh meat; the cabbage butterfly from laying them on cabbage, and other insects from depositing them in the several places peculiar to each. The scarabæus, pilularious, and carnifex, are deserving our attention, as they afford a mutual assistance to each other; for when the female has laid her eggs in a little ball of dung, the males with their feet, which are axiform, assist the females to roll it to some suitable place; as Aristotle and Pliny formerly, and Loeffling has lately observed.

It is very wonderful to observe, that in the coccus and oniscus, the female has no sooner brought forth her young, than she is devoured by it; and that the sphex should be able so readily to kill the caterpillar of a moth, then bury it in the earth, and there deposit her eggs in it. Nor can we without admiration behold the same species of aphid which was viviparous in the summer, become oviparous in the autumn.

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