

Almost innumerable examples might be brought of the singularities in the eggs of insects: we shall, however, only mention those of the *hemerobius*, which are deposited on a foot-stalk, those of the *phalæna neustri*, which are placed regularly in a ring round the branch of some tree; and the compound eggs of the *blatta*.

METAMORPHOSES OF INSECT

THERE are no insects, except of the *optera* class, but what are continually undergoing some transformation. Insects change first from the egg, into the caterpillar or maggot; then into the pupa *chrysalis*, and lastly, into the fly, or perfect state. During each of those changes, their appearance differ as much as night and day.

The insect, as soon as it comes out of the egg, was, by former entomologists called *eruca*; but as this is synonymous with the botanic name *sisymbrium*, it was changed by Linnæus for the term *larva*; a name expressive of the insect's being, in this state, as it were masked, having its true appearance concealed. Under