

in others, they are scarcely visible. The female never begins to lay till she is two years old.

When the number of eggs which the spider has brought forth has remained for an hour or two to dry after exclusion, the little animal then prepares to make them a bag, where they are to remain until they leave the shell. For this purpose she spins a web four or five times stronger than that made for catching flies; and, besides, lines it with a down, which she plucks from her own breast. This bag, when completed, is as thick as paper, is smooth within side, but rough without. Within this they deposit their eggs; and it is almost incredible to relate the concern and industry which they bestow in the preservation of it. They stick it, by means of their glutinous fluid, to the end of their body; so that the animal, when thus loaded, appears as if she had one body placed behind another. If this bag be separated from her by any accident, she employs all her assiduity to stick it again in its former situation, and seldom abandons her treasure but with her life. When the young ones are excluded from their shells they remain for some time in their confinement, until the