

A thousand he should say much too little. The part is divided into a number of little prominences, like the eyes of a butterfly, and each prominence no doubt makes its several threads; or rather between the several protuberances there are holes that give vent to threads: the use of the protuberances, in all probability, being to keep the threads at their first exit, before they are yet hardened by the air, asunder: In some spiders these protuberances are not so serviceable, but in lieu of them, there are tufts of hair which may serve the same office, viz. to keep the threads apart; be this as it may, however, threads may issue from above a thousand different places in every papillæ; consequently the spider, having five papillæ, has holes for above five thousand threads.

Such is the tenuity of the threads in the larger sort of spiders; yet if we examine the young produced by those, we shall find that they no sooner quit their egg than they begin to spin; indeed their threads can scarcely be perceived, but the webs may; they are frequently as thick and close as those of house spiders; and no wonder, there being often four or five hundred little spiders concurring to the same work.