

colour; in a fortnight's time they come to a tolerable size, and are very lively and active; but if they are touched at this time, they roll themselves up in a ball: soon after this they begin to creep like silk-worms that have no legs, and then they seek a place to hide themselves in, where they spin a silken thread from their mouth, and with this they enclose themselves in a small round bag or case, as white within as writing paper, but dirty without; in this they continue for a fortnight longer; after which they burst from their confinement perfectly formed, and armed with powers to disturb the rest even of a tyrant.

The *Louse*. This insect, observes an ingenious writer, is not only the most disagreeable, but also the most inveterate tormentor of man; for wherever misfortune sends her train of wretchedness, disease, and hunger to beset him, the louse seldom fails to add itself to the tribe, and to increase in proportion to the number of his calamities.

When the *human louse* is examined with the microscope, the shape of the fore-part of the head appears to be somewhat oblong; that of the hind-part somewhat round; the skin is hard,