

exposing it to view; yet, should the frost unexpectedly return, they sink it again as before.

Of all this classes of insects, the *Earwig* undergoes the least change of any. This animal is so common, that it scarcely needs a description: its swiftness, in the reptile state, is not less remarkable than its indefatigable velocity when upon the wing. That it must be very prolific, appears from its numbers; and that it is very harmless, every one's experience can readily testify. It is provided with six feet, and two feelers: the tail is forked; and with this it often attempts to defend itself against every assailant. But its attempts are only the threats of impotence; they draw down the resentment of powerful animals, but no way serve to defend it. By prejudice it is almost universally supposed to enter into the ears of people sleeping; thus causing madness, from the intolerable pain, and soon after death itself; but such calumny is entirely groundless; and it were well if the accusations which gardeners bring against the earwig were as slightly founded. There is nothing more certain, than that it lives among flowers, and destroys them. When fruit also has been wounded by flies, the earwig generally