

rally comes in for a second feast, and sucks those juices which they first began to broach. Still, however, this insect is not so noxious as it would seem; and it is seldom found but where the mischief has been originally begun by others. Like all of this class, the earwig is hatched from an egg. As there are various kinds of this animal, so they choose different places to breed in: in general, however, they lay their eggs under the bark of plants, or in the clefts of trees, when beginning to decay. They proceed from the egg in that reptile state in which they are most commonly seen; and as they grow larger, the wings that are bound under the skin begin to sprout. It is amazing how very little room four large wings take up before they are protruded. The sheath in which they are enveloped, folds and covers them so neatly, that the earwig seems quite destitute of wings; and even when they have burst from their confinement, the animal, by the power of the muscles and joints, which it has in the middle of its wings, can closely fold them into a very narrow compass. When the earwig has become a winged insect, it flies in pursuit of the female, ceasing to feed, and is wholly employed in the business of propagation. It lives, in its winged state, but a few days; and