

that never have so many. The animal into which they are converted, is always a butterfly or a moth; and these are always distinguished from other flies, by having their wings covered over with a painted dust, which gives them such various beauty.

It has been established by the united observations of several naturalists, that all caterpillars are hatched from the eggs of butterflies. When the caterpillar first bursts from its egg, it is small and feeble; its appetites are in proportion to its size, and it seems to make no great consumption; but as it encreases in magnitude, it improves in its appetites; so that, in its adult or caterpillar state, it is the most ravenous of all animals whatsoever. A single caterpillar will eat double its own weight of leaves in a day, and yet seem no way disordered by the meal.

The body of the caterpillar, when anatomically considered, is found to be composed of rings, whose circumference is pretty near circular or oval. They are generally twelve in number, and are all membraneous; by which caterpillars may be distinguished from many other insects, that nearly resemble them in form. The head of the caterpillar is connected to the first ring by the neck, which is generally so short
and