

phosis begins to approach; and from white it is usually seen to become yellow. If to these parts we add the caterpillar's implements for spinning, (for all caterpillars spin at one time or other) we shall have a rude sketch of this animal's conformation.

The life of a caterpillar seems one continued succession of changes; and it throws off one skin only to assume another; and this for eight or ten times successively; but we must not, however, confound this changing of the skin with the great metamorphosis which it is afterwards to undergo, the one being the action of a minute, the other the most important event of their lives; and besides which, it is nothing more than what is common with almost the whole insect tribe. A day or two before the time of this operation approaches, the insect ceases to eat, loses its usual activity, and appears to remain immoveable. It retires to some place of supposed security, though it is no longer timorous but seems regardless even of the touch. It now and then bends itself, and elevates its back, and then stretches again to the utmost extent; it will lift up its head, but soon lets it fall again; it sometimes waves it three or four times