

times from side to side, and then remains quiet, At length some of the wings of the body are seen to swell considerably, particularly the first and second; the old skin distends and bursts, till by repeated swellings and contractions, in every ring, the caterpillar disengages itself, and creeps from its inconvenient covering.

However laborious this operation may be, it is performed in the space of a minute; and the animal, having thrown off its old skin, seems to enjoy new vigour, as well as to have acquired colouring and beauty. Sometimes it happens that it takes a new appearance, and colours very different from the old. Those that are hairy, still preserve their covering, although their ancient skin seems not to have lost a single hair; every hair seems to have been drawn, like a sword from the scabbard. The fact, however, is, that a new crop of hair grows between the old skin and the new, and probably helps to throw off the external covering.

The caterpillar having, in this manner, continued for several days feeding, and at intervals casting its skin, begins at last to prepare for its change into an aurelia.

Preparatory to this important transmutation, the caterpillar most usually quits the plant, or the  
tree