

In proportion as their change into aurelia approaches, their body becomes more and more bent; while their extensions and convulsive contractions increase. The hinder end of the body is the part which the animal first disengages from its caterpillar skin; that part of the skin remains empty, while the body is drawn up contracted towards the head. In the same manner they disengage themselves from the two succeeding rings; so that the animal is then lodged entirely in the forepart of its caterpillar covering; that half which is abandoned remains flaccid and empty; while the fore part, on the contrary, is swollen and distended. The animal having thus quitted the hinder part of its skin, to drive itself up into the fore part, still continues to heave and work as before; so that the skin soon bursts into three pieces, and a longitudinal opening is made in the three first rings of the body, through which the insect thrusts forth its naked body, with strong efforts. Thus, at last, it entirely gets free of its caterpillar skin, and for ever forsakes its most odious reptile form.

The caterpillar, thus stripped of its skin for the last time, is now become an aurelia, in which the parts of the future butterfly are all visible;