

“ and placed it where I might observe them
“ more at my ease. The fly, wholly taken up
“ by the business in which it was employed,
“ walked along the caterpillar’s body, now and
“ then remaining fixed to a particular spot.
“ Upon this occasion I perceived it every now
“ and then dart a sting, which it carried at the
“ end of its tail, into the caterpillar’s body, and
“ then drew it out again, to repeat the same ope-
“ ration in another place. It was not difficult
“ for me to conjecture the business which en-
“ gaged this animal so earnestly; its whole aim
“ was to deposit its eggs in the caterpillar’s
“ body; which was to serve as a proper retreat
“ for bringing them to perfection. The rep-
“ tile thus rudely treated, seemed to bear all
“ very patiently, only moving a little when
“ stung too deeply; which, however, the fly
“ seemed entirely to disregard. I took parti-
“ cular care to feed this caterpillar; which
“ seemed to me to continue as voracious and
“ vigorous as any of the rest of its kind. In
“ about ten or twelve days, it changed into an
“ aurelia, which seemed gradually to decline,
“ and died; upon examining its internal parts,
“ the animal was entirely devoured by worms,
“ which,