

cloth or paper box in which the eggs were laid, and which are large enough to hold a great number. When they have acquired some strength, they must be distributed on beds of mulberry leaves, in the different stories of the square in the middle of the room, round which a person may freely pass on every side. They will fix themselves to the leaves, and afterwards to the sticks of the hurdles, when the leaves are devoured. They then have a thread, by which they can suspend themselves on occasion, to prevent any shock by a fall. Care must be taken that fresh leaves be brought every morning, which must be strewed very gently and equally over them; when the silkworms will forsake the remainder of the old leaves, which must be carefully removed, and every thing left very clean; for nothing hurts these insects so much as moisture and uncleanness. For this reason, the leaves must be gathered when the weather is dry, and kept in a dry place, if it be necessary to lay in a store. As these animals have but a short time to live, they make use of every moment, and are almost continually spinning, except at those intervals when they change their skins. If mulberry leaves be difficult to be obtained, the leaves of lettuce,