

stirring them till the first thread offers them a clue for winding all off. They generally take eight of the silken threads together; the cones still kept under water, till a proper quantity of the silk is wound off: they do not however take all; for the latter parts grow weak, and are of a bad colour. As to the paper like substance which remains, some stain it with a variety of colours, to make artificial flowers; others let it lie in the water, till the glutinous matter which cements it is all dissolved: it is then carded like wool, spun with a wheel, and converted into silk stuffs of an inferior kind.