

when they burst their prisons, and fly away. The caterpillar, however, is irreparably destroyed; it never changes into a chrysalis, but it soon dies, from the injuries it has sustained.

We now come to a species of four-winged insects, that are famous from all antiquity, for their social and industrious habits, that are marked for their spirit of subordination, that are offered as a pattern of parsimony to the profuse, and of unremitting diligence to the slug-gard; the *Ant.*

In the experiments, however, which have been more recently made, and the observations which have been taken, much of their boasted frugality and precaution seems denied to them; the treasures they lay up, are no longer supposed to be intended for future provision; and the choice they make in their stores, seems no way dictated by wisdom. It is, indeed, somewhat surprising, that almost every writer of antiquity, should describe this insect, as labouring in the summer, and feasting upon the produce during the winter. Perhaps, in some of the warmer climates, where the winter is mild, and of short continuance, this may take place; but in France and England these animals can
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