

the entrance of the cavities where the others were assembled in greatest numbers: towards the end of the winter and in the spring, he discovered individuals exactly resembling those first mentioned, but having the rudiments of four wings; and in June, the same individuals had acquired four ample wings, had become of a blackish colour, and consisted of males and females; a month later a few only were found in the termitary, which had lost their wings, and eggs now began to appear laid up in certain labyrinths of the wood.*

It is clear from this account that those with a round head and short mandibles are larves, which go through the usual metamorphosis of their tribe, not changing their form, but acquiring wings, first packed up in cases, and afterwards developed. The second description, with the elongated head and crossed mandibles, never acquired wings, and therefore correspond precisely with the neuters amongst ants, only, as Providence always economizes means, and wills that nothing be lost or wasted, he has decreed that these locomotive larves and pupes should not live in idleness.

Order 7.—We now come to an Order, taking their food by suction, which appear to have been formed to deck our fields and groves with various beauty; but which in their first state, when they masticate their food, they mar and destroy, often stripping the trees of their leaves, and covering our hedges with their webs full of crawling myriads of devastators. It will be seen that I am speaking of the *Lepidopterous* Order, consisting of three great phalanxes, the *diurnal* fliers, or butterflies; † the *Crepuscular* fliers, or hawkmoths; ‡ the *nocturnal* fliers, or moths; § each divided into several genera. Their caterpillars most generally feed upon the foliage of vegetables of every description; but

* Latreille in N. D. D'H. N. xxxiii. 90.

‡ Sphinx. L.

† Pupalio. L.

§ Phalæna. L.