

and that often before he has met with the female to which they belonged.

There are therefore animals, distinguished by sexes, which have proper parts for copulation, and some which are deficient in them; others, as snails, have both, and the two sexes in the same individual; others, as vine-fretters, have no sex, and engender in themselves separately; although they couple together when they please, we cannot determine whether that is a conjunction of sexes; if it is so, we must suppose that Nature has included in this small individual more faculties for generation than in any other kind of animal, and that it not only has the power of reproducing distinctly, but also the means of multiplying by the communication of another individual.

But whatever difference takes place in generation, Nature, by a new production, prepares the body for it, and which, whether manifested outwardly, or concealed internally, always precedes generation. The ovaries of oviparous animals, and the testicles of female viviparous animals, before the season of impregnation, experience a considerable change. Oviparous animals produce eggs, which at first are attached to the ovaries, by degrees  
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