

along the winding passages which they have themselves excavated, holding by the jaws, and dragging themselves forwards. These movements are assisted by the resistance afforded by short tubercles, which project from different parts of the back and under surface of the body; so that these insects advance in the passage by an act similar to that by which a chimney-sweeper, exerting the powerful pressure of his elbows, shoulders, and knees, manages to climb up a chimney.

For the purpose of enabling insects to take stronger hold of the surfaces they pass over, we often observe them furnished with spines, or hooks, which are moved by appropriate muscles, and they occupy different situations on the body. Modifications without end occur with regard to these and other external parts, subservient in various degrees to progressive motion. Every possible gradation is also seen between the short tubercles already mentioned, and the more regularly formed feet or legs. Those which are regarded as *spurious legs*, or *prolegs*, as they have been called, occupy an intermediate place between these two extremes. They consist of fleshy and retractile tubercles, and are often very numerous; while the number of the *true legs*, as they are called, is limited to six. These last are the representatives of the legs of the future perfect insect; for they are attached to the first three segments of the thorax; and are formed of those portions articulated to each other, corresponding to the three principal joints of the imago. The true legs are generally protected by horny scales; but the coverings of the prolegs are wholly membranous. The office of these spurious legs is merely to serve as props to support the body while the insect is walking, and to prevent its hinder part from trailing on the ground. They are frequently terminated by single or double hooks; and also by a marginal coronet of recurved spines. These hooks, or spines, enable the insect to cling firmly to smooth surfaces; and also to grasp the most slender twig, which could not have been laid hold of by legs of the usual construction.

The speed with which these larvæ can advance, is regulated by many circumstances, independently of the mere