

feathers, and that of quadrupeds who only change their fur, since they disengage themselves from their whole external skin with all its appendages, whether of fur, or any other substance. Their moult resembles rather that of trees, whose outer skin, under the form of bark, peels off annually, and is succeeded by another formed under it, as is particularly evident in the birch, plane, &c.

It is to the researches of the same learned, and patient, and penetrating experimenter and naturalist that we are indebted for what knowledge we possess of the means employed by nature for the reproduction of the mutilated organs of Crustaceans. Having cut off the legs of some crabs and lobsters, and placed them in covered boats, communicating with the water, and destined to keep fishes or Crustaceans alive, at the end of some months, he saw that the mutilated legs had been replaced by new ones perfectly resembling the old, and almost as large. The time necessary for this reproduction was not fixed, but depended upon the warmth of the season, and the supply of food furnished to the animal, and likewise upon the part in which the mutilation took place. The point of union of the second and third joints, is the part of the leg where a fracture is most easily made, and the reproduction is most rapid. At this point there are many sutures which appear distinct from articulations; it is in these sutures, particularly the intermediate one, that the separation usually occurs, and many Crustaceans, if they are wounded in some other part of their leg, cast the remainder off at this suture to facilitate the reparation of their loss. So much only is reproduced in each leg as is necessary to render it again complete.

When a leg is mutilated in the summer, if examined a day or two after the experiment, the first circumstance observable is a kind of covering membrane of a reddish hue; in five or six days more this membrane becomes