

an animal as that which entirely fills up the new.

To account for the speedy growth of the shell, it is supposed that the lobster possesses in itself a fluid of a petrifying quality;—but this is, in fact, only explaining one mystery by another.

After what has been described, let us, in the words of Goldsmith, “ pause a little to reflect on the wonders this extraordinary creature offers to our imagination! an animal without bones on the inside, yet furnished with a stomach capable of digesting the hardest substances, the shells of muscles, of oysters, and even its own; an animal gaining a new stomach and a new shell at stated intervals; furnished with the instruments of generation double in both sexes, and yet with an apparent incapacity of uniting! Without red blood circulating through the body, and yet apparently vigorous and active! But most strange of all, an animal endowed with a vital principle that furnishes such limbs as have been cut away, and keeps continually combating, though in constant repair, to renew its engagements! Yet these are but a small part of the wonders of the deep, where Nature sports without a spectator.”