

told by some, that it remains torpid and inactive, without even attempting to escape.

The very instant the wound is inflicted, though small in itself, it appears more painful than the sting of a bee. This pain, which is so suddenly felt, far from abating, grows every moment more excruciating and dangerous; the limb swells; the venom reaches the head, which is soon of a monstrous size; the eyes are red and fiery; the heart beats quick, with frequent interruptions: the pain becomes insupportable, and some expire under it in five or six hours; but others, who are of stronger constitutions, survive the agony for a few hours longer only to sink under a general mortification which ensues, and corrupts the whole body.

It is related by Goldsmith, that, “ As a gentleman in Virginia was walking in the fields  
“ for his amusement, he accidentally trod upon  
“ a rattle-snake that had been lurking in a  
“ stony place, which, enraged by the pressure,  
“ reared up, bit his hand, and shook its rattles.  
“ The gentleman readily perceived that  
“ he was in the most dreadful danger; but unwilling to die unrevenged, he killed the  
“ snake, and carrying it home in his hand,  
VOL. V. P “ threw