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OF INSECTS.

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BY some natural historians, this class of animals is considered as the most imperfect of any, while others prefer them to the larger animals. One mark of their imperfection is said to be, that many of them can live a long time, though deprived of those organs which are necessary to life in the higher ranks of nature. Many of them are furnished with lungs and a heart like the nobler animals; yet the caterpillar continues to live, though its heart and lungs, which is often the case, be entirely eaten away. It is not, however, from their conformation alone, that insects are inferior to other animals, but from their instincts also. It is true that the ant and the bee present us with striking instances of assiduity; yet even these are inferior to the marks of sagacity displayed by the larger animals. A bee taken from the swarm is totally helpless and inactive,