

are capable of living a long while in the same situation. As they are not apparently furnished with ears, they have been deemed incapable of hearing; for we can no more conceive that sense to exist without ears, than vision without eyes. That they are nevertheless susceptible of any shrill or loud noise, as well as fish, is indisputable; but it has been supposed to be in a manner different from that of hearing.

Mr. Barbut, however, imagines them to possess this sense in a very distinct manner. Many insects, he observes, are well known to be endowed with the power of uttering sounds, such as large beetles, the bee, wasp, common fly, gnat, &c: the *sphinx atropos* squeaks, when hurt, nearly as loud as a mouse. Now, if insects be endowed with the power of uttering sounds, it certainly must be for some purpose. As they vary their cry occasionally, it must certainly be designed either to give notice of pleasure or pain, or some affection in the creature who possesses it. The knowledge of their sounds, says that author, is undoubtedly confined to their tribe, and is a language intelligible to them only; except when violence obliges the animal to exert the voice of nature in distress, craving compassion; then all ani-