

afflicted with a delirium and sometimes is seized with a deep melancholy; and the same symptoms return annually, in some cases, for several years, and at last terminate in death. Music, it has been pretended, is the only cure. A musician is brought, who tries a variety of airs, till at last he hits upon one that urges the patient to dance; the violence of which exercise, produces a proportionable agitation of the vital spirits, attended with a consequent degree of perspiration, the certain consequence of which is a cure. Such are the circumstances which have been generally related, and long credited, concerning the bite of this animal. Kircherus, in his *Musurgia*, gives a very particular account of the symptoms and cures, illustrated by histories of cases, among which he mentions a girl, who being bitten by this insect, could be cured only by the music of a drum. He then proceeds to relate, that a certain Spaniard, trusting to the efficacy of music in the cure of the frenzy occasioned by the bite of the tarantula, submitted to be bitten on the hand by two of these creatures, of different colours, and possessed of different qualities, the venom was no sooner diffused about his body, than the symptoms of the disorder began to appear: upon
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