

In Europe, the general size of this animal does not exceed two or three inches; and its sting is very seldom found to be fatal.

Maupertuis, who made several experiments on the scorpion of Languedoc, found it to be by no means so invariably dangerous as had till then been represented. He provoked one of them to sting a dog in three places of the belly, which were without hair: in about an hour afterwards the poor animal seemed greatly swollen, and he became very sick; he then cast up what he had in his stomach, and for about three hours continued vomiting a whitish liquid. His belly was always very much swollen when he began to vomit; this operation seemed to abate the swelling, which alternately encreased and was thus reduced for three hours successively. The poor animal, after this, fell into convulsions, bit the ground, dragged himself along upon his fore feet, and at last died, about five hours after he had been bitten. Some days after, however, the same experiment was tried upon another dog, and even with more aggravated cruelty, yet the dog seemed no way affected by the wounds, but howling a little when he received them, continued perfectly alert, and was soon after set at liberty, without shewing