

assert that, unless immediately relieved, the wound becomes fatal.

Of all animals in the creation the scorpion is the most irascible. When taken they act with perfect fury; they rush against the sides of the vessel in which they are enclosed, and endeavour to sting every thing which comes near them. Maupertuis put three scorpions and a mouse into the same vessel together, and they all immediately stung the little animal in different places: the mouse, thus assaulted, stood for some time upon the defensive, and at last killed them all, one after the other, and even survived the severity of the wounds it had received.

Wolkamer tried the courage of the scorpion against the large spider, and enclosed several of both kinds in glass vessels for that purpose. The spider at first used all its efforts to immesh the scorpion in its web, which it immediately began spinning; but the scorpion rescued itself from the danger, by stinging its adversary to death: it soon after, with its claws, cut off all the legs of the spider, and then sucked all the internal parts at its leisure.—If the scorpion's skin had not been so hard, Wolkamer was of opinion, that the spider would have obtained the victory,