

some bushes; but the number of leeches was so great in that place, and they stuck to her so close, that the poor creature expired from the quantity of blood which she lost by their united efforts. Nor is this much to be wondered at, since one of those insects, that, when empty, generally weighs but a scruple, will, when gorged, weigh more than two drachms.

When leeches are to be applied, the best way is to take them from the water in which they are contained, about an hour before, for they thus become more voracious, and fasten more readily; when saturated with blood, they generally fall off of themselves; but by sprinkling them with a little salt, if they adhere too long, they may be taken off at any time.

Though the leech so closely resembles the worm, it certainly has a claim to rank in a superior order of nature; for if the worm be cut in two, each part continues to live, but the leech being severed there is an end to its existence.