

of three or four days repairs the calamity; but our verdure is the livery of a season, and, if destroyed, we must wait till the ensuing spring repairs the damage. Besides, in their long flights to this part of the world, they are famished by the length of their journey, and are therefore more voracious wherever they happen to settle. But it is not by what they devour that they do so much damage as by what they destroy. Their very bite is thought to contaminate the plant, and to prevent its vegetation. To use the phrase of the husbandman, they burn whatever they touch, and leave the marks of their devastation for two or three years. But if they are noxious while living, they are still more so when dead; for wherever they fall they infect the air in such a manner, that the smell is insupportable.

Orosius tells us, that in the year of the world 3800, there was an incredible number of locusts infected Africa; and, that after having eaten up every thing that was green, they flew off, and were drowned in the African sea, where their stench was so great as almost to infect the air. In the year 1690, a cloud of locusts were seen to enter Russia, and thence to spread themselves over Poland and Lithuania, in such astonishing