

nishing multitudes, that the air was darkened and the earth covered with them. In some places they were seen lying dead, heaped upon each other, four feet deep; in others they covered the surface like a black cloth; the trees bent beneath their weight; and the damage which the country sustained exceeded computation. In Barbary their numbers are formidable, and their visits are frequent. Dr. Shaw gives an account of their devastations in that country in the year 1724, to which he was a witness. Their first appearance was about the latter end of March, when the wind had been southerly for some time. In the beginning of April their numbers were so greatly increased that, in the heat of the day, they formed themselves into large swarms, which appeared like clouds and darkened the sun. In the middle of May they began to disappear, retiring into the plains to deposit their eggs. In June the young brood began to make their appearance, forming many compact bodies of several yards square; which afterwards, marching forward, climbed the trees, walls, and houses, eating every thing that was green in their way. The inhabitants, to stop their progress, laid trenches all over their fields and gardens, filling them with water.