

country hearth. The smallest chink serves to give them shelter; and where they once make their abode they are sure to propagate. They are of a most chilly nature, seldom leaving the fire-side; and, if undisturbed, are seen to hop from their retreats to chirrup at the blaze in the chimney. The wood-cricket is the most timorous animal in nature; but the chimney-cricket, being used to noises, disregards them.

Whether the voice of this animal is formed in the same manner with that of the grasshopper is not yet ascertained; nor do we well know the use of this voice, since anatomical inspection has not been able to discover the smallest organs of hearing. Certain it is, however, that they can distinguish sounds, since they are often heard to call, and this call is regularly answered by another, although none but the males are vocal.

As the cricket lives chiefly in the dark, so its eyes seem forward for the gloominess of its abode; and those who would surprise it, have only to light a candle unexpectedly; by which it is dazzled, and cannot find the way back to its retreat. It is a very voracious little animal, and will eat bread, flour, and meat; but it is parti-