

press all the rest of the insect tribes, whom they seize and devour without mercy. Wherever they fly, like the eagle or the falcon, they form a desert in the air around them. In this manner the summer is passed in plundering the neighbourhood, and rearing up their young; every day adds to their numbers; and from their strength, agility, and indiscriminate appetite for every kind of provision, were they as long-lived as the bee, they would soon swarm upon the face of Nature, and become the most noxious plague of man; but providentially their lives are measured by their powers of mischief, and they live but a single season. In proportion as the cold of the winter encreases, they are seen to become more domestic; they seldom leave the nest, they make but short adventures from home, they flutter about in the noon-day heats, and soon after return chilled and feeble.

As their calamities increase, new passions begin to take place; the care for posterity ceases, and as the parents are no longer able to provide their growing progeny with a supply, they take the barbarous resolution of sacrificing them all to the necessity of the times. In this manner, like a garrison upon
short