

branching thorns. It is called by the natives *barba de tigre*. It was perhaps a tree of the berberideous family.* The Indians had kindled fires at the edge of the water. We again perceived, that their light attracted the crocodiles, and even the porpoises (toninas), the noise of which interrupted our sleep, till the fire was extinguished. A female jaguar approached our station whilst taking her young one to drink at the river. The Indians succeeded in chasing her away, but we heard for a long time the cries of the little jaguar, which mewed like a young cat. Soon after, our great dog was bitten, or, as the Indians say, stung, at the point of the nose, by some enormous bats that hovered around our hammocks. These bats had long tails, like the Molosses: I believe, however, that they were Phyllostomes, the tongue of which, furnished with papillæ, is an organ of suction, and is capable of being considerably elongated. The dog's wound was very small and round; and though he uttered a plaintive cry when he felt himself bitten, it was not from pain, but because he was frightened at the sight of the bats, which came out from beneath our hammocks. These accidents are much more rare than is believed even in the country itself. In the course of several years, notwithstanding we slept so often in the open air, in climates where vampire-bats,† and other analagous species are so common, we were never wounded. Besides, the puncture is no-way dangerous, and in general causes so little pain, that it often does not awaken the person till after the bat has withdrawn.

The 4th of April was the last day we passed on the Rio Apure. The vegetation of its banks became more and more uniform. During several days, and particularly since we had left the Mission of Arichula, we had suffered cruelly from the stings of insects, which covered our faces and hands. They were not mosquitos, which have the appear-

* We found, on the banks of the Apure, *Ammania apurensis*, *Cordia cordifolia*, *C. grandiflora*, *Mollugo sperguloïdes*, *Myosotis lithospermoïdes*, *Spermacocce diffusa*, *Coronilla occidentalis*, *Bignonia apurensis*, *Pisonia pubescens*, *Ruellia viscosa*, some new species of *Jussieua*, and a new genus of the composite family, approximating to *Rolandra*, the *Trichospira menthoïdes* of M. Kunth.

† *Verspertilio spectrum*.