

disease, the green sorts suffered most; "and red and black grapes, even when interwoven with the sick plants, suffered not at all." In France whole groups of varieties were comparatively free, and others, such as the Chasselas, did not afford a single fortunate exception; but I do not know whether any correlation between colour and liability to disease was here observed.¹⁴ In a former chapter it was shown how curiously liable one variety of the strawberry is to mildew.

It is certain that insects regulate in many cases the range and even the existence of the higher animals, whilst living under their natural conditions. Under domestication light-coloured animals suffer most: in Thuringia¹⁵ the inhabitants do not like grey, white, or pale cattle, because they are much more troubled by various kinds of flies than the brown, red, or black cattle. An Albino negro, it has been remarked,¹⁶ was peculiarly sensitive to the bites of insects. In the West Indies¹⁷ it is said that "the only horned cattle fit for work " are those which have a good deal of black in them. The " white are terribly tormented by the insects; and they are " weak and sluggish in proportion to the white."

In Devonshire there is a prejudice against white pigs, because it is believed that the sun blisters them when turned out;¹⁸ and I knew a man who would not keep white pigs in Kent, for the same reason. The scorching of flowers by the sun seems likewise to depend much on colour; thus, dark pelargoniums suffer most; and from various accounts it is clear that the cloth-of-gold variety will not withstand a degree of exposure to sunshine which other varieties enjoy. Another amateur asserts that not only all dark-coloured verbenas, but likewise scarlets, suffer from the sun: "the paler kinds stand better, and pale blue is perhaps the best of all." So again with the heartsease (*Viola tricolor*); hot

¹⁴ 'Gardener's Chronicle,' 1852, pp. 435, 691.

¹⁵ Bechstein, 'Naturgesch. Deutschlands,' 1801, B. i. s. 310.

¹⁶ Prichard, 'Phys. Hist. of Mankind,' 1851, vol. i. p. 224.

¹⁷ G. Lewis's 'Journal of Residence

in West Indies,' 'Home and Col. Library,' p. 100.

¹⁸ Sidney's edit. of Youatt on the Pig, p. 24. I have given analogous facts in the case of mankind in my 'Descent of Man,' 2nd edit. p. 195.