

his propensity to excess, independent of that ardour with which he endeavours to destroy himself, by endeavouring to force Nature ; he hardly knows how to distinguish the effect of this or that nourishment ; he disdains simple food, and prefers artificial dishes, because his taste is depraved, and because, from being a sense of pleasure, he has rendered it an organ of debauchery, which is never gratified but when it is irritated.

It is not surprising, therefore, that we are more subjected than animals to infirmities ; since we know not so well as them, what may contribute to preserve or destroy health, our experience being less certain than their perception ; nay we abuse the very senses of the appetite, which they enjoy in such superior excellence, these being to them the means of preserving health, and to us causes of disease and of destruction. By intemperance alone more men sicken and die, than by all the scourges incident to human nature.

From these reflections it would appear, that animals have a more certain, as well as a more exquisite sensation of feeling than men. In support of this superior strength of sentiment, we may advert to their sense of smelling, which some animals enjoy to such a degree that they