

Nor in all these things is the benevolence of the Deity less conspicuous than his wisdom. *All must die*; and death from rapacious or venemous animals, is probably not in any degree more painful, than many other modes of death which we constantly witness. There is, in truth, to our own narrow and selfish feelings, something exceedingly painful in the idea of being torn to pieces by a Tiger, or stung to death by a Rattlesnake; but how many thousands of little mice are destroyed by cats? and how many myriads of unfortunate flies are poisoned by spiders, every day we live? and yet we hardly commiserate them. The question, therefore, is simply a question of degree: and viewing the existence and the destruction of animals, as they ought to be viewed, on the great scale, we find that the whole is perfectly in unison. While in temperate climates we have cats and spiders, designed as checks on over productiveness; amidst the grandeur and the luxurious developement of the Tropics, the same wise purpose is executed by the Tiger and by the Rattlesnake.

As we advance from the Equator into the temperate climates; the size of animals in general, like the size of vegetables, becomes gradually smaller. Like the vegetables, too, the animals of temperate climates are more gregarious than within the Tropics. Hence *number*, as among vegetables, compensates in some degree for