

alarmed by the appearance of locusts. In 1748, they were observed in considerable numbers, but providentially they soon perished without propagating. They were evidently stragglers from the vast swarms which in the preceding year did such infinite damage in Wallachia, Transylvania, Hungary, and Poland. One of these swarms, which entered Transylvania in August, was several hundred fathoms in width, (at Vienna the breadth of one of them was three miles,) and extended to so great a length as to be four hours in passing over the Red Tower; and such was its density, that it totally intercepted the solar light, so that when they flew low one person could not see another at the distance of twenty paces. A similar account has been given me by a friend of mine long resident in India, where he informs me, the column they composed extended five hundred miles; and so compact was it when on the wing, that, like an eclipse, it completely hid the sun, so that no shadow was cast by any object; and some lofty tombs distant from his residence not more than two hundred yards were rendered quite invisible.

Dr. Clarke, to give some idea of the infinite numbers of these animals, compares them to a flight of snow when the flakes are carried obliquely by the wind. They covered his carriage and horses, and the Tartars assert that people are sometimes suffocated by them. The whole face of nature, he says, might have been described as covered by a living veil. They consisted of two species, the *Gryllus tartaricus*, and *Gryllus migratorius*: the first is almost twice the size of the second, and, because it precedes it, is called by the Tartars, the herald, or messenger.

From 1778 to 1780 the empire of Morocco was