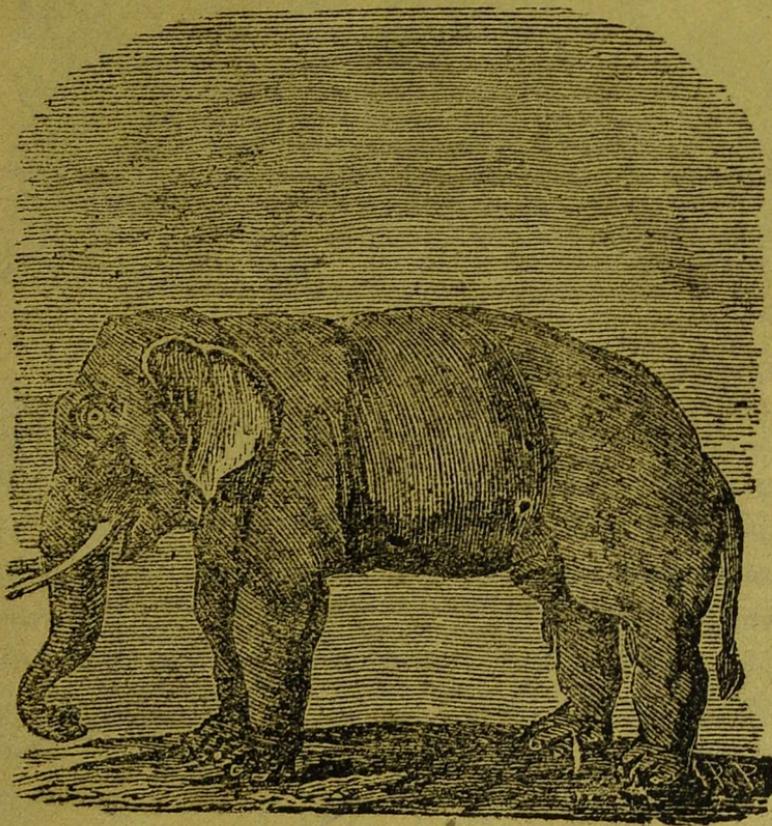


**A VISIT
TO THE
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.**



LONDON,
PUBLISHED BY W. G. KERTON,
Paul's Alley, Paternoster Row.

A VISIT
TO THE
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

LONDON,
PUBLISHED BY W. G. NERTON,
Finsbury Alley, Paternoster Row.

A VISIT TO THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

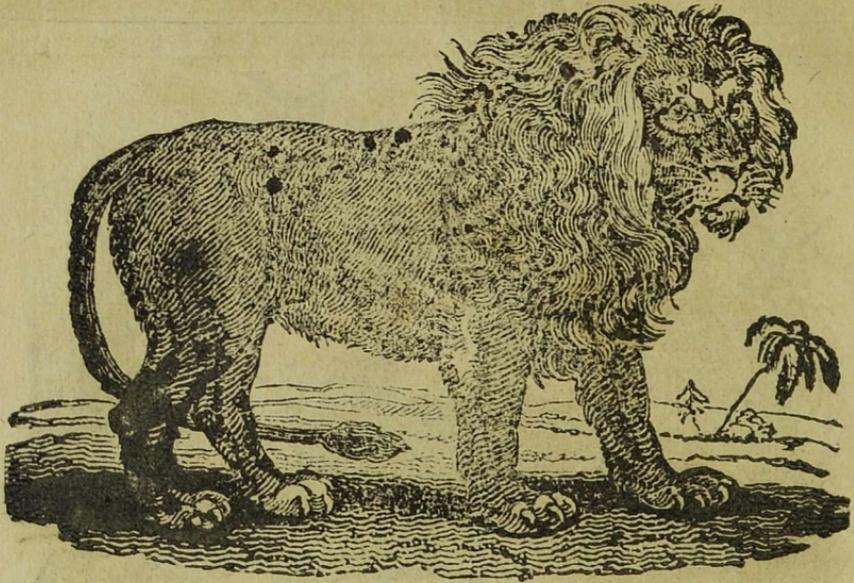


THE DEER.

DEER shed their horns an-nu-al-ly in the spring : if the old ones do not fall off, the animal rubs them gently against the branch of a tree. The new horns are tender ; and the deer walk with their heads low, lest they should hit them against the branches : when they are full grown and hard, the deer rub them against the trees, to clear them of a skin with which they are covered,

The skins of deer are of use for leather, and the horns make good handles for common knives. Spirit of hartshorn is extracted, and hartshorn shavings are made from them.

Rein-deer, in Lapland and Greenland, draw the natives in sledges over the snow with pro-di-gi-ous swiftness.



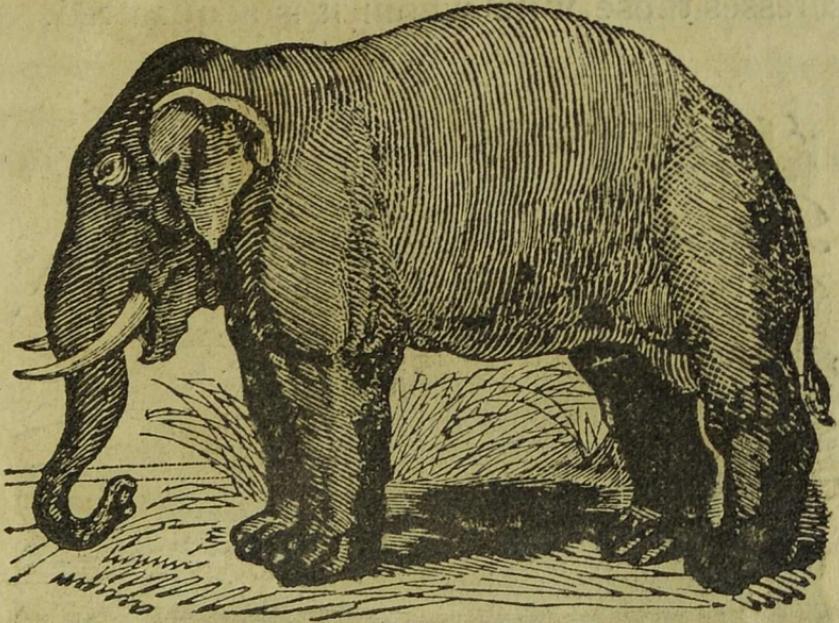
THE LION.

THIS noble animal has a large head, short round ears, shaggy mane, strong limbs, and a long tail tufted at the ex-trem-i-ty. His general colour is tawny, which on the belly inclines to white. From the nose to the tail a full-grown lion will measure eight feet. The lioness is somewhat smaller, and destitute of a mane.

Like other animals, the lion is affected by the influence of climate in a very sensible degree. Under the scorching sun of Africa, where his courage is excited by the heat, he is the most terrible and undaunted of all quadrupeds.

A single lion of the desert will often rush upon a whole caravan, and face his enemies, in-sen-sible to fear, to the last gasp. To his keeper he appears to possess no small degree of attachment; and though his passions are strong & his appetites

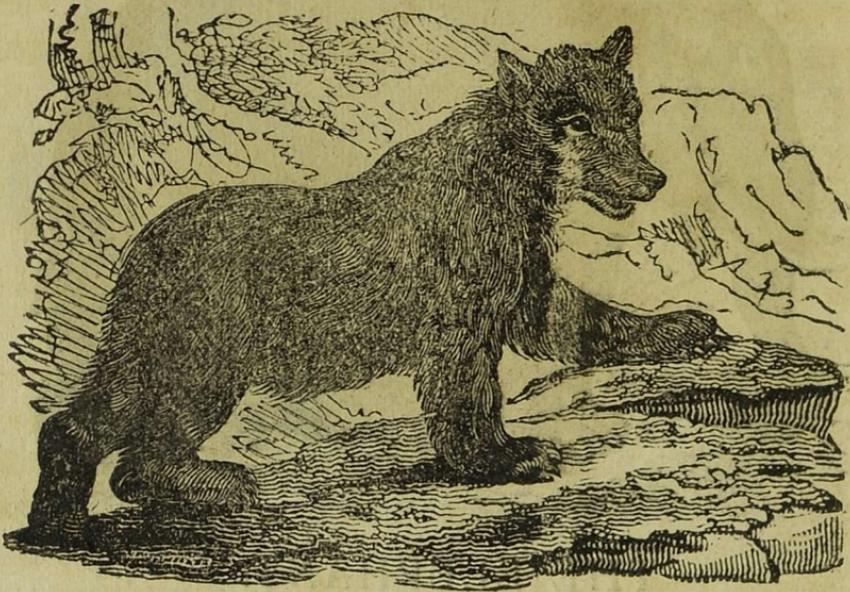
vehement, he has been tried, and found to be noble in his resentment, mag-nan-i-mous in his courage, and grateful in his dis-po-si-ti-on. His roaring is so loud, that it pierces the ear like thunder.



THE ELEPHANT.

THE Elephant is not only the largest, but the strongest of all quadrupeds ; in a state of nature it is neither fierce nor mischievous. Pacific, mild, and brave, it only exerts its powers in its own defence, or in that of the com-mu-nity to which it belongs. It is social and friendly with its kind ; the oldest of the troop always appears as the leader, and the next in se-ni-or-i-ty brings up the rear. As they march, the forest seems to tremble beneath them ; in their passage they bear down the branches of trees, on which they feed : and if they enter cul-ti-va-ted fields, the labour of agriculture soon disappears.

When the elephant is once tamed, it is the most gentle and o-be-di-ent of all animals. Its at-tach-ment to its keeper is re-mark-a-ble, and it seems to live but to serve and obey him. It is quickly taught to kneel, in order to receive its rider ; and it caresses those with whom it is acquainted.



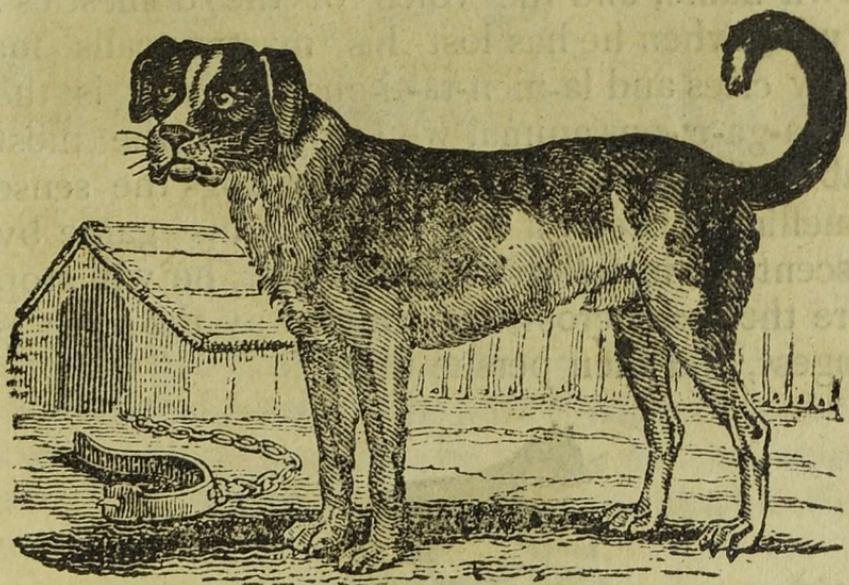
THE BEAR.

THERE are several kinds of bears ; such as the black bear, the brown bear & the white bear.

The black bear is a strong powerful animal, covered with black glossy hair, and is very common in North A-mer-i-ca. It is said to subsist wholly on ve-ge-ta-ble food : but some of them, which have been brought into England, have shewn a preference to flesh. They strike with their fore feet like a cat, seldom use their tusks, but hung their assailants so closely, that they al-

most squeeze them to death. After becoming pretty fat in autumn, these animals retire to their dens, and continue six or seven weeks in total in-act-i-v-i-t-y and ab-sti-nence from food.

the white, or Greenland bear, has a pe-cu-li-ar-ly long head and neck, and its limbs are of pro-di-gi-ous size and strength: its body frequently measures thirteen feet in length. The white bear lives on fish, seals, and the dead bodies of whales.



THE DOG.

THE dog is gifted with that sa-ga-ci-ty, vi-gi-lance, and fi-del-ity, which qualify him to be the guard, the com-pan-ion, and the friend of man: and happy is he who finds a friend as true and faithful as this animal, who will rather die by the side of his master, than take a bribe of a stranger to betray him. No other animal is so much the

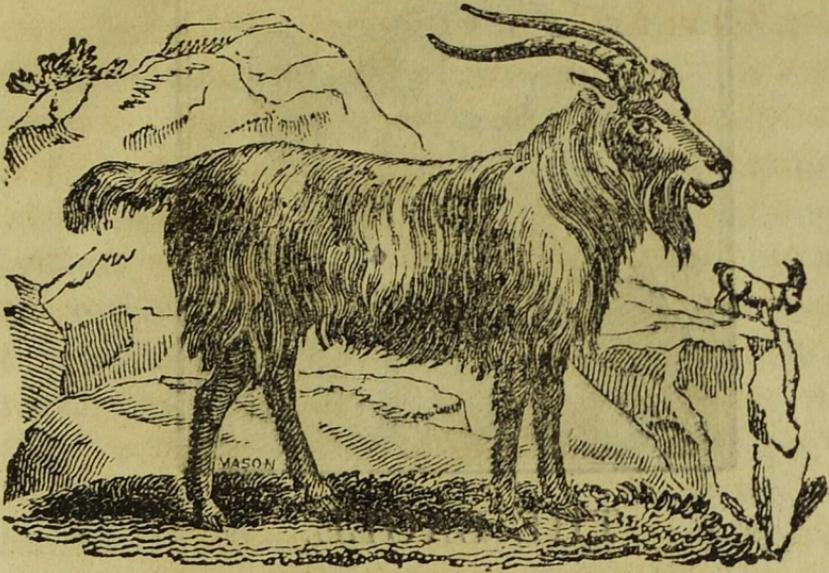
com-pan-i-on of man as the dog. The dog understands his master by the tone of his voice: nay, even by his looks, he is ready to obey him.

Dogs are very ser-vice-a-ble to man. A dog will conduct a flock of sheep, and will use no roughness but to those which straggle, and then merely to bring them back. The dog is said to be the only animal who always knows his master, and the friends of the family; who dis-tin-guish-es a stranger as soon as he arrives; who understands his own name, and the voice of the domestics; and who, when he has lost his master, calls for him by cries and la-men-ta-ti-ons. A dog is the most sa-ga-ci-ous animal we have, and the most capable of ed-u-ca-ti-on. In most dogs the sense of smelling is keen: a dog will hunt his game by the scent; & in following his master, he will stop where the roads cross, try which way the scent is strongest, and then persue that.



THE FOX.

This lively and crafty animal is common to every part of Great Britain, and is so well known as not to require a particular description. The craft it uses in securing its prey is remarkable. When it has acquired more than it can devour, its first care is to secure what it has killed. It makes holes in the earth, where it conceals its booty by carefully covering it over with earth.



THE GOAT.

A GOAT is somewhat like a sheep, but has hair instead of wool. The white hair is va-lu-a-ble for wigs ; cloth may also be made of the goat's hair. The skin of the goat is more valuable than that of the sheep.

Goats seem to have more sense than sheep. They like to rove upon hills, are fond of browsing upon vines, and delight in the bark of trees. Among mountain they climb the steepest rocks, and spring from brow to brow. Their young is called a kid : the flesh of kids is esteemed : gloves are made of their skins. Persons of weak con-stitution drink the milk of goats.

Goats are very playful : but they sometimes but at little boys, and knock them down, when they are teased and pulled by the beard or horns.



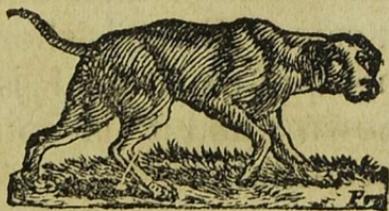
THE EAGLE.

The Golden Eagle is the largest & the noblest of all these birds that have received the name of eagle. It weighs about twelve pounds. Its length is three feet ; the extent of its wings, seven feet four inches ; the bill is three inches long, and of a deep blue colour. The sight & senses of smelling, are very acute. The head & neck are clothed with narrow sharp-pointed feathers, and of a deep brown colour, bordered with tawny ; but those on the crown of the head, in very old birds, turn grey. The whole body, above as well as beneath, is of a dark brown ; and the feathers of the back are finely clouded with a deeper shade of the same. The wings when clothed, reach to the end of the tail. The quill-feathers are of a chocolate colour, the shafts white. The tail is of a deep brown, irregularly barred and blotched with an obscure ash-colour, and usually white at the roots of the feathers. The legs are yellow, short and very

strong, being three inches in circumference, and feathered to the very feet. The toes are covered with large scales, and armed with the most formidable claws, the middle of which are three inches long.

In general, these birds are found in mountains and ill-peopled countries, and breed among the loftiest cliffs. They choose those places which are remotest from man, upon whose possessions they seldom make their depredations, being content rather to follow the wild game in the forest, than to risk their safety to satisfy their hunger.

This fierce animal may be considered among birds as the lion among quadrupeds, and in many respects they have a strong similitude to each other. They are both possessed of force, and an empire over their fellows of the forest. Equally magnanimous, they disdain smaller plunder; and only pursue animals worthy the conquest. It is not till after being long provoked, by the cries of the rook or the magpie, that this generous bird thinks fit to punish them with death, the eagle also disdain to share the plunder of another bird; and will take up no other prey but that which he has acquired by his own pursuits. How hungry soever he may be, he never stoops to carrion; and when satiated he never returns to the same carcase, but leaves it for other animals, more rapacious and less delicate than he.





THE BIRD OF PARADISE.

There are few birds that have more puzzled the learned than this. Some have described it as an inhabitant of the air, living only upon the dew of heaven, and never resting below; others have acquiesced in the latter part of its history but having given it flying insects to feed on. Some have asserted that it is without feet, and others have ranked it among the birds of prey.

The great beauty of this bird's plumage & the deformity of its legs, seem to have given rise to most of these erroneous reports. The native savages of the Molucca Islands, of which it is an inhabitant, were very little studious of natural history; and perceiving the inclination the Europeans had for this beautiful bird, carefully cut off its legs before they brought it to market; thus concealing its greatest deformity, they considered themselves entitled to rise in their demands when they offered it for sale. Error is short lived; the real history of this pretty animal is at present tolerably well known; and it is found to be as harmless as it is beautiful.

This bird, which for beauty exceeds all others of the pie kind, is a native of the Molucca Islands but found in the greatest numbers in that of Aro. There, in the delightful and spicy woods of the country, these beautiful creatures fly in large flock ; so that the groves that produce the richest spices produces the finest birds also.

Their flight is rapid, and during the day they are continually on the wing in search of insects, their usual prey. In the evening they perch upon the highest trees of the forest. In what manner they breed, as yet remains for discovery.



THE FERN OWL

OR Goat Sucker, is a very beautiful bird of colour, being more like a cuckoo than an Owl ; it is easily distinguished from all other birds, by the structure of its bill and feet. Its bill, in proportion to its body, is the least of all birds, and crooked. It has a huge wide mouth and swallow. On the sides of the upper chap of the bill, as also under the chain, it has stiff hairs, like bristles ; the under side of the body is beautified with black

and red ; the legs are very small in proportion, feathered on the fore side half way

It is found in the mountainous woods in many parts of England, particularly Yorkshire, Derbyshire, &c.



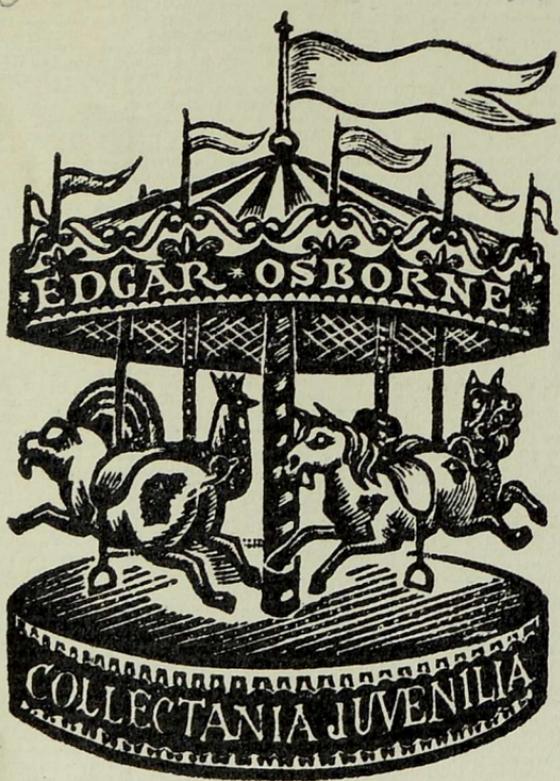
THE HERON.

This well known bird is remarkably light in proportion to its bulk ; its body being extremely slender, and all its members of a corresponding structure. The colour and plumage of the two sexes vary so much, that many naturalists have been led to consider them as different species.

It is a general robber of ponds and lakes ; and frequently, with instinctive foresight, builds its nest in places where the stock of fish is artificially kept up, in order to gain a better opportunity for plunder.

MS

dr



37131048 603 930

