

Peccary



Rhinoceros



Hippopotame



Babiroujsa



Indian Hog



Cabini



ning of the back, and between the ears. Its ears are sharp-pointed and large, the inside being lined with long whitish hairs. Its tail is small and flat, does not extend below the thighs, and is covered with hairs disposed into tufts or bunches. They inhabit the hottest parts of Africa, from Senegal to Congo; they are also found in the island of Madagascar*. They are very swift and fierce, and will not breed either with the domestic or Chinese sow. One of these animals, at the prince of Orange's menagerie near the Hague, was turned out to a Chinese sow, which it killed, and afterwards to a common sow, which he treated very roughly.

THE BABYROUESSA, OR INDIAN HOG.

THIS animal has some weak bristles along the back, but the rest of the body is covered with fine short wool, resembling that of a lamb: the tail ends in a tuft, and is often twisted. The body is square and plump, and the head is ob-

* Flacourt Hist. Madag.

long and narrow, with a snout proper for rooting in the earth. The ears are small, erect, and sharp-pointed; and the eyes are very small. It has four cutting-teeth in the upper, and six in the lower-jaw; with six grinders to each jaw: it has also two tusks in the lower-jaw, pointing towards the eyes, and standing almost eight inches out of their sockets. From two sockets on the outside of the upper-jaw, proceed two other teeth, twelve inches long, and bending like horns, their ends almost touching the forehead. It inhabits Buero, a small island near Amboyna: it is found also in Celebes, but neither on the continent of Asia or Africa. In the Indian islands, these animals are sometimes kept tame. In their wild state they live in herds, and feed on vegetables: they never, like other swine, ravage gardens. When these animals are pursued and driven to extremities, they will rush into the sea, or any other water, and swim from island to island. They are also expert in diving. The tusks, as may be perceived by their form, are useless in combat; but they delight in resting their heads, by hooking their upper-tusks

rests on some bough. The feet are like those of the European hogs, and their legs long and slender.

THE CABIAI, OR CAPIBERA.

THE cabiai, in the shape of its body, and the colour and coarseness of its hair, resembles an hog of about two years old. It has a short thick neck, rounded bristly back, delights in the water and marshy places, produces many young at a time, and, like the hog, feeds upon both animal and vegetable food. The head, however, is longer than that of the hog, the eyes larger, and the snout is split, like that of a rabbit or hare, and furnished with long thick whiskers. The mouth of the cabiai is smaller, its teeth are different, and it is without tusks. It has no tail, and, instead of a cloven hoof, like all others of this kind, it is, in a great degree, web-footed, and calculated for swimming, and living in the water. It seems, indeed, to delight in that element, and some naturalists have therefore called it the water-hog. It inhabits South-America, and, like the
otter,

otter, is chiefly seen frequenting the borders of lakes and rivers. It preys upon fish, which it seizes with its hoofs and teeth, and carries them to the margin of the lake or stream, to devour at its ease. It also feeds upon corn, fruits, and sugar-canes. The cry of this animal rather resembles the braying of an ass, than the grunting of an hog. It seldom appears, except at night, and then not without company. It never ventures far from the water, that element being its only place of safety; for its feet are so long, and its legs so short, that it is a very slow and awkward runner. When pursued by the hunter, it plunges into a lake or river, and continues so long at the bottom, that he can have no hopes of taking it there.

This animal is naturally of a gentle disposition, and, when taken young, is easily tamed. It is then obedient to command, and appears attached to its keeper. Its flesh, which is fat and tender, has a fishy taste; but its head is said to be delicate food. In this respect, it resembles the beaver, whose fore-parts taste of flesh, and the hinder have a strong flavour of the fish it feeds on.

THE RHINOCEROS.

THIS animal inhabits Bengal, Siam, Cochin-China, Quangsi in China, the Islands of Java, and Sumatra, Congo, Angola, Æthiopia, and the country as low as the Cape. Next to the elephant, the rhinoceros is the most powerful of animals. Bontius informs us, that, in respect to bulk of body, it equals the elephant, but is lower on account of the shortness of its legs. It is generally about twelve feet long, from the tip of the nose to the insertion of the tail; and from six to seven feet high.

This animal is so remarkably formed, that a perfect idea of its shape cannot be conveyed in words, we have therefore been particularly careful in giving an accurate delineation of it on copper. Its head is furnished with a single horn, placed near the end of the nose, which is generally from three feet to three feet and an half long. The upper-lip is long, hanging over the lower, and ending in a point. It is very pliable, and serves to collect its food, and deliver

liver it into the mouth : the nostrils are placed transversely : the ears are large, erect, and pointed ; the eyes small, and without lustre : the skin is almost naked, rough, and knotty, and lying upon the neck and body in vast folds. The skin, which is of a dirty brown colour, is so hard and thick as to resist a musket-ball : the belly hangs low ; the legs are short, strong, and thick ; and the hoofs divided into three parts, each pointing forward. It delights in shady forests, and the neighbourhood of rivers and marshy places : like the hog, it loves to wallow in the mire, and is said, by that means, to give shelter in the folds of its skin, to scorpions, centipes, and other insects. It is a solitary, quiet, and inoffensive animal, but swift and furious when it is enraged. It never provokes to combat, but it equally disdains to fly. It brings forth but one at a time, about which it is extremely solicitous.

The scent of this animal is said to be most exquisite ; and it is affirmed that it consorts with the tiger : this, however, is fabulous, and founded on their common attachment to the sides of rivers ; because they both frequent wa-
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very places in the scorching climates where they are bred. It is also reported to have a tongue so extremely rough, as to take off the flesh from a human body by licking it, but Ladvocat affirms, "it is smooth, soft, and small, like that of a dog."

This animal appears chiefly formidable from the horn growing from its snout. It is composed of the most solid substance, and pointed so as to inflict the most fatal wounds. With every blow, the rhinoceros employs all its force, and the tiger will more willingly attack any other enemy of the forest than this formidable creature. It is defended on every side by a thick horny hide, which cannot be pierced by the claws of the lion or the tiger, and it is armed before with a weapon that even the elephant does not choose to oppose. It is said the elephant is often found dead in the forests, pierced with the horn of a rhinoceros; and Emanuel, king of Portugal, by way of experiment, actually opposed them to each other, and the rhinoceros was victorious.

In 1739, a rhinoceros was shewn in London, which came from Bengal. It was of a gentle disposition, and suf-

ferred itself to be handled by all visitors, never attempting to do any mischief, except when hungry or when abused; in such cases, its fury could only be appeased by giving it something to eat.

When it was angry, it would jump with violence against the walls of its room, but seldom attempted to attack its keeper, and was obedient to his threats.

The rhinoceros brings forth at about three years old, and will live till it is about twenty. Its flesh is eaten, and Kolben says, it is very good. Cups are made of its horn, and many medicinal virtues are ascribed to it, when taken in powder, but seemingly without foundation. There are some varieties in this animal found in Africa with a double horn.

The rhinoceros is the unicorn of Holy Writ, and of the antients; the oxyx, and the Indian as of Aristotie*, who says it has but one horn: his informers might well compare the clumsy shape of the rhinoceros to that of an ass, so that he might easily be induced to pronounce it a whole footed animal. The unicorn of Holy Writ has all the properties of the rhinoceros.

* Hist. An. lib. II. c. 1.

This animal was known to the Romans in very early times : its figure is among the animals of the Prænestine pavement ; and Augustus introduced one into his shews on his triumph over Cleopatra.

THE HIPPOPOTAME, OR SEA-HORSE.

THE hippopotame is as large and formidable as the rhinoceros, and, in bulk, is second only to the elephant. The length of the male has been found to be seventeen feet, from the extremity of the snout to the insertion of the tail ; the circumference of its body fifteen feet, and its height almost seven ; the legs near three feet, and the head almost four. Hasselquist says, its hide is a load for a camel. Its jaws extend about two feet, and it has four cutting-teeth in each jaw, which are above a foot long. The head is of an enormous size ; the ears small and pointed, and lined within with a short fine hair : on the lips are some strong hairs scattered in bunches. The hair on the body is very thin, of a lightish colour,

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