

WATSON

THE
ANIMAL WORLD
DISPLAY'D.
OR, THE
NATURE AND QUALITIES
OF
LIVING CREATURES
DESCRIBED,

Under the DENOMINATIONS of,

I. BIRDS, } III. FISHES,
II. BEASTS, } IV. SERPENTS.

IN WHICH

All the necessary and useful Knowledge, contained
in the many learned Works, written on this Sub-
ject, in different LANGUAGES, is familiarly con-
veyed to the ENGLISH READER;

AND

The gross ERRORS of IGNORANT COMPILERS are
carefully avoided.

A Work of Entertainment as well as Information.

By FREDERICK WATSON.

Illustrated with COPPER-PLATES, engraved after Original
DRAWINGS, taken from the Life.

The SECOND EDITION, Corrected.

L O N D O N.

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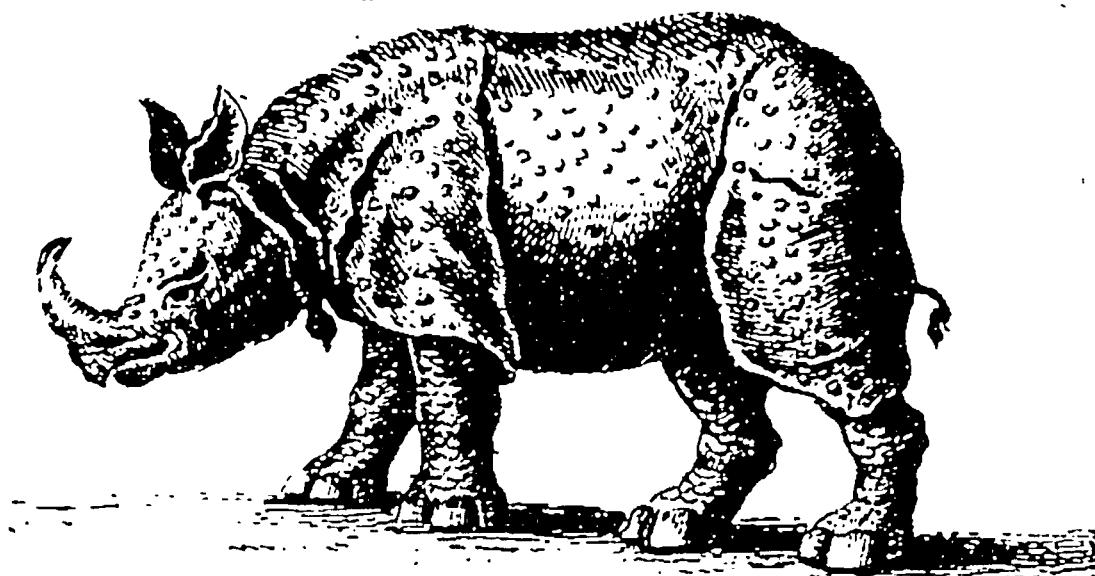
Marmotte



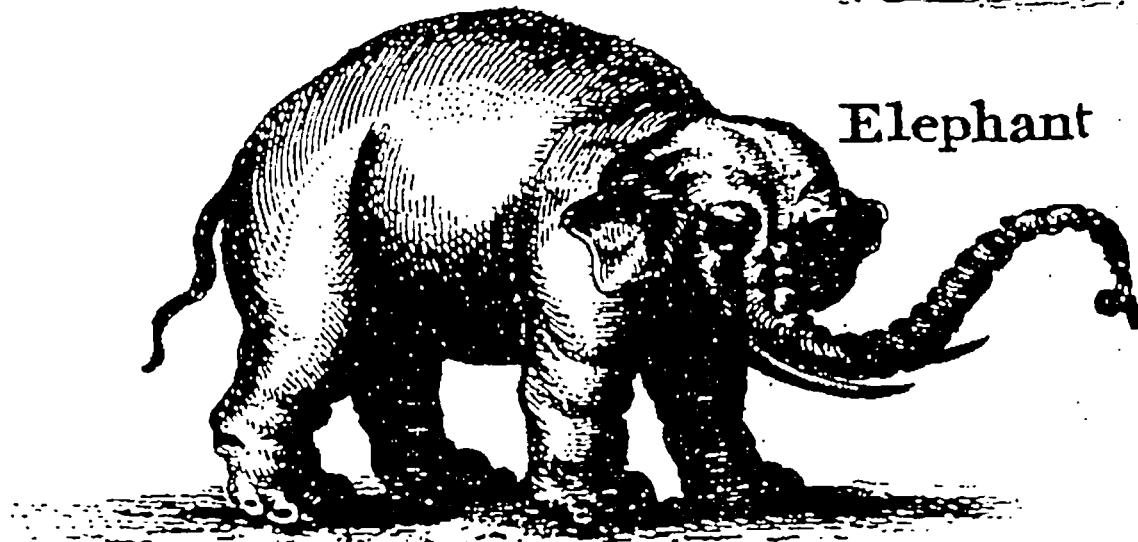
Guinea Pig



Rhinoceros



Elephant



The little stinking, and as it is supposed, venomous Creature, called by some the Shrew Mouse, and by others the little Mole, is neither of one of these Kinds nor the other, but a distinct Sort of Animal: 'Tis true it has something of the general Appearance of the Mouse, and it gets into the Ground like a Mole; but its Teeth, which are split and notched in so singular a Manner, distinguish it from all other Creatures. It is less than a Mouse, and is brown on the Back and white on the Belly.

These Differences from the general Kind, in which the Creatures do not approach to those of any other, although they vary from their own in some small Circumstances, are not confined to the small Animals: We find them in the largest. We are accustomed to look upon the having a single Horn placed upon the Extremity of the Snout to be the distinguishing Mark of the Rhinoceros; but we have of late Years seen a Part of the Skin of the Head of a Rhinoceros brought over as a Curiosity, and two Horns instead of one growing upon it, the one placed behind the other. There are Travellers also who mention the having seen the Creature alive with two Horns on its Nose; and the old Poets speak of it as Thing known to them. One such is Weapon enough in the Power of so strong an Animal fifteen Feet in Height, though its Legs are very short, covered with a Coat of Armour, impenetrable almost to any Weapon, and of a Weight to crush the stoutest Animal, the Elephant only excepted, in its Fall. See Plate IX.

As we know there is a Kind of Rhinoceros beside that usually seen, we have some Reason to

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to imagine there may be also another Kind of Elephant, and that much larger than what we see; or else that the same Elephant, growing for a long Course of Years, may at length arrive at a Bulk we have no Conception of. There is this Ground for the Belief; that the Elephants we have seen, monstrously large as they have been, have yet had Tusks very small in Proportion to those which are brought over as Ivory. We see some of these that weigh four Hundred Weight the Pair, and are even seven Feet in Length; what must we conceive of the Creature that is capable of carrying them?

The Bulk of Body in the Elephants we see is amazing, as is also the Strength of their Legs; but with all this, the Animal is the most unwieldy in the World, and is fit neither for Flight nor Pursuit. Its Teeth are terrible Weapons; but there are, excepting the Rhinoceros's, no Animals large enough to employ them against. The Trunk is only the Nose growing out to that vast Length; but it serves in the Place of Hands; the Fore-feet, which answer to that Purpose in other Animals, being not at all fitted for it in this. This strange Instrument serves very well for the Purpose, being four Feet or more in Length, and capable of all Kinds of Motions. See Plate IX.

To conclude this Arrangement of the Four-footed Animals, that Creature is yet to be named which affords us the Perfume called Musk. The Animal is as big as a Pig three-quarters grown; and it has been called a Goat by some, and by others a Deer; but it has no Horns, nor any Resemblance to either of those Kinds.