

Mexicans and Peruvians, who alone had entered into society, reckon only 200 or 300 years from the first man who taught them to assemble? why had they not reduced the lama, pacos, and other animals, by which they were surrounded, into a domestic state? As their society was in its infancy, so were their arts; their talents were imperfect, their ideas unexpanded, their organs rude, and their language barbarous. The names of their animals*, of which we have subjoined a few as a specimen, were so difficult to pronounce, that our only astonishment is, how the Europeans should have taken the trouble to write them.

Thus every circumstance seems to indicate, that the Americans were new men, or rather men who had been so long estranged from the rest of their species that they had lost all idea of the world from which they had issued; that the greatest part of the American continent was new land, unassisted by man, and in which Nature

* *Pelton ichiati oquitli*—the lama.

Tapierete, in Brasil; *maniporous*, in Guinea—the tapir.

Macatlebicillie temamacama—the antelope of New Spain.

Quaubtla coymatl—the Mexican hog.

Tlacoozcottl—the mountain cat.

Tlachrugbqui occlotl, in Mexico—the jaguar.

Hoitzlaquatzin—the porcupine of New Spain.

Xolitzchnintli—the Mexican wolf.