

they were permitted to run about without doing the least mischief, and that they were called *Constantinople cats*; *Spanish cats*; *genet cats*, &c. though, indeed, they have nothing in common with that animal, except the skill of watching and catching mice.* Naturalists pretend that genets inhabit only moist grounds, and reside along the banks of rivers, and that they are never found on mountains or dry grounds. The species is not numerous, or, at least, not much diffused; for there are none of them in any part of Europe, except Spain and Turkey. They seem to require a warm climate to subsist and multiply in, and yet they are not found in India or Africa. The *fossane* has been called the genet of Madagascar, but that animal is of a different species, as will hereafter be shewn.

The skin of the genet makes a light and handsome fur, it was formerly fashionable for muffs, and consequently very dear; but the manufacturers having got the art of counterfeiting them, by painting the skins of grey rabbits

* It is, perhaps, because they are only found in the Levant and in Spain, that they are designated by their country; for the name of *genet* is not derived from any of the ancient languages, and is probably only a new appellation taken from some place abounding with them, a custom which is very common in Spain, where a certain race of horses are called *genets*.