

M. de la Borde has also transmitted several particulars ; he says, “ There are two species of ant-eaters which inhabit the woods of Guiana, the one larger than the other ; they run very slow, and when they swim across large rivers which is a common practice, it is easy to knock them on the head with a stick ; but in the woods it is necessary to use muskets, for the dogs refuse to hunt them. The great ant-eater tears up the nests of wood-lice, which he easily discovers ; he is a dangerous animal to encounter, as he gives most severe wounds with his claws, with which he successfully defends himself against the most fierce animal of this continent, such as the jaguars, cougars, &c. and with which he also kills many dogs, who are therefore afraid of him. He is said to feed on ants, for which his tongue appeared well calculated, but I found in the stomach of one a great number of wood-lice, which had just been swallowed. The females bring forth in the holes of trees, and have one at a time, and at those periods they will even attack men. The savages at Cayenne eat the flesh, although it is black and unsavory ; their skins are thick and hard ; they do not attain their full size before they are four years old ;