

which receives only the oblique rays of the sun, where the night and the day comprehend two seasons ; where the snow covers the earth from the beginning of autumn to the end of spring, and where the verdure of the summer consists in the bramble, juniper, and moss, where could man expect to procure necessary nourishment for cattle ? The horse, the ox, the sheep, and all the other useful animals, could not find subsistence there, nor resist the rigour of the cold ; it was therefore necessary to search among the inhabitants of the forest for the least wild and profitable animals ; the Laplanders have done what we should be obliged to do ourselves if we were to lose our cattle ; we should then be forced to tame the stags, and the roebucks of our forests to supply their place ; this I am persuaded, we should easily accomplish, and soon derive as much advantage from them as the Laplanders do from their rein-deer. This example ought to make us sensible how far Nature has extended her liberality towards us ; we do not make use of one half her treasure, for her bounty is more immeasurable than we can imagine ; she has bestowed on us the horse, the ox, the sheep, and all other domestic animals, to serve, to feed, and clothe us ; and she has other species
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