

back. When it walks it seems as if its legs and flanks on both sides were alternately lame; and when it grazes, or drinks, it is obliged to spread its fore legs prodigiously wide."

Gesner affirms, upon the authority of Belon, that this animal sheds its horns like the deer ; but I must confess that I never could find such a fact asserted in that author. He merely says, as above, that the horns of the camelopard are covered with hair ; and he only speaks in one other place of that animal, namely, when treating of the axis, where he says, “ The camelopard has a white skin, with broad spots sprinkled over it, which, though red, are not so deep as those of the axis.” This fact, which however I have not been able to meet with in any part of Belon’s work, would be of great importance to decide the nature of the giraffe, for if it sheds its horns every year it belongs to the stag kind ; and, on the contrary, if its horns are permanent, it must be considered as belonging to the ox or goat species ; but, without this precise knowledge, we cannot assert, as our nomenclators have done, that the giraffe is of the stag genus ; and we are not a little surprised that Hasselquist, who has given a very long and dry description of this animal, has been silent as to its nature. After having

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