

---

THE PHALANGER.

---

TWO animals, a male and female, which were sent to us by the name of *Surinam rats*, but which have much less affinity to rats, than with those animals with which we have given the history under the names of the *marmose* and *cayopollin*. We have, therefore, rejected the denomination of *Surinam rats*, as complex and misapplied. As it has never been mentioned by any naturalist or traveller, we have called it *phalanger*, (*fig. 168.*) from its *phalanges* being singularly formed, and because the two first toes on the fore-feet are joined to each other to the end of the last phalanx, and are separated only near the claws; the thumb is separated from the other toes and has no claws; this last character, although remarkable, is not peculiar, for the Virginia and murine opossums have the same, but none of them have the *phalanges* fastened together.

These