

considering it as a distinct species. The vansire, or, as it is called by some, the Madagascar weasel, of which place it is a native, has twelve grinders in its upper jaw, while the ferret has only eight; and the lower grinders, though ten in number in both animals, are neither alike in shape nor situation. Besides, the vansire differs in the colour of its hair from all ferrets, though those, like every other animal which man is careful of rearing and increasing, vary so much in colour, that there is a difference even between male and female.

To us it appears, that the animal mentioned by Seba as the *weasel of Java*, and which, he says, the natives call *koger-angan*, and afterwards spoken of by Brisson by the name of the *ferret of Java*, may possibly be the same animal as the vansire, at least it comes nearer to the vansire than to any animal at present known; but Seba's description is not sufficiently complete to establish a just comparison, which is absolutely necessary to form a solid and explicit judgment.