

hundred and fifty years, none have been discovered. The tapir, the jaguar, the puma, the cabiai, the lama, the vigogne, the red wolf, the buffalo or American bison, the ant-eaters, sloths, and armadilloes, are already in Margrave and in Hernandes. as well as Buffon. We may say that they are there better described, for Buffon has mingled the history of the ant-eaters, misunderstood the jaguar and the red wolf, and confounded the bison of America with the aurochs of Poland. In fact, Pennant is the first naturalist who has properly distinguished the little musk ox, but it had long been pointed out by travellers. The cleft-footed horse of Molina is not described by the first Spanish voyagers; but its existence is more doubtful, and Molina's authority is too dubious to be adopted. It would be possible to characterize better than at present the stags of America and the Indies; but with them, as with the ancients respecting the various antelopes, a good method of description was wanting, (and not opportunities of seeing them,) that they might be better known. We may then say, that the mouflon of the Blue Mountains is now the only quadruped of America of any size, the discovery of which is entirely modern; and perhaps it is only a Siberian goat that has crossed the ice.

How then can we believe that the enormous mastodons, the gigantic megatheria, whose remains have been found under the earth in the two Americas, can still exist on that continent? How could they escape those wandering people who incessantly overrun the country, in every corner of it; and who themselves acknowledge that they no longer exist, since they have imagined a fable about their destruction, saying that they were killed by the