

various animals which dwell only in forests. Here the temperate fauna commences. Still the number of species is not yet very considerable ; but as he advances southward, along the coasts of Nova Scotia and New England, he finds new species gradually introduced, while those of the colder regions diminish, and at length entirely disappear, some few accidental or periodical visitors excepted, who wander, during winter, as far south as the Carolinas.

417. But it is after having passed the boundaries of the United States, among the Antilles, and more especially on the southern continent, along the shores of the Orinoco and the Amazon, that our traveller will be forcibly struck with the astonishing variety of the animals which people the forests, the prairies, the rivers, and the sea-shores, most of which he will also find to be different from those of the northern continent. By this extraordinary richness of new forms, he will become sensible that he is now in the domain of the tropical fauna.

418. Let him still travel on beyond the equator towards the tropic of Capricorn, and he will again find the scene change as he enters the regions where the sun casts his rays more obliquely, and where the contrast of the seasons is more marked. The vegetation will be less luxuriant ; the palms will have disappeared to make place for other trees ; the animals will be less varied, and the whole picture will recall to him, in some measure, what he witnessed in the United States. He will again find himself in the temperate region, and this he will trace on ; till he arrives at the extremity of the continent, the fauna and the flora becoming more and more impoverished as he approaches Cape Horn.

419. Finally, we know that there is a continent around the South Pole. Although we have as yet but very imperfect notions respecting the animals of this inhospitable climate, the few which have already been observed there present