

place with sheep ; some have no horns, others have two, and one breed, the Icelandic, is distinguished by having four. How these variations have been produced, and by what circumstances they are ruled, has not been ascertained, nor what differences, in other respects, obtain between the armed and unarmed varieties. Linné indeed observed, with respect to the polled sheep, which he denominates English sheep,—but whether they are strictly entitled to that name is not clear, for in the pillars of Trajan and Antoninus, though there are no polled oxen, there are polled sheep,—that their tails and scrotum reach to the knees; but this does not appear a certain and invariable fact. A young zoologist, when his attention is first arrested by these facts, will probably be inclined to think that animals, exhibiting such striking differences, cannot belong to the same species; but in the progress of his experience, especially in what takes place in almost all animals that man has taken into alliance with him, he will see reason to change his sentiments.

Again, the ears of some animals also exhibit differences that might seem to indicate specific distinction. We see this both in the horse and the swine. In the wild horse the ears lie back; in the domesticated or cultivated one they are erect. The horse was not originally a native of America; but when the Spaniards and other nations obtained a footing in that country, they carried this animal with them, which is now become wild, and numerous herds of them are found in the Llanos; these generally, we are told, are of a chestnut bay, and have recumbent ears. Those that are found wild in the Steppes of Tartary have the hair of the mane and tail very long and thick, and their ears also are recumbent. A writer, quoted below, has concluded from some observations of Xenophon and Varro, that the military horses of the Greek and Roman republics were much nearer those in the wild state, as just described, than in a sub-