

and verdant prairies, but hard and rocky roads. Hence this animal has been employed by man from a very early period of society. We do not indeed know whether the mighty hunter, Nimrod, went to the chase of man and beast on horseback, though it is not improbable; but both the horse and the ass were common in Egypt in Joseph's time,* the latter was used by Abraham to ride upon,† and asses are enumerated amongst his possessions when he went up from Egypt fifty years before.‡

The sole organs of prehension of this tribe are their mouth and upper lip. Every one knows how adroit the horse and ass often become in the use of these organs, not only in gathering their food, but in opening gates that confine them to their pastures.

In the genuine Pachyderms the foot begins to show marks of division. In the rhinoceros there are three toes, in the hippopotamus four, and in the Proboscidiæ of Cuvier, including the elephant and *Mastodon*, or fossil elephant, there are five toes, three of the nails of which only appear externally, and four on the hind-foot of the Asiatic species.§

The *Swine* family divide the hoof like the Ruminants; it consists of two intermediate toes, large, and armed with nails or hoofs, and two lateral ones much shorter and not touching the ground; in this respect also resembling many Ruminants. In hilly and mountainous districts these upper toes are probably useful in locomotion.

The prehensory organ of the animals here enumerated is usually the *snout*, with this the *hog*|| turns up the ground in search of roots or grubs, often doing great injury to pastures. The male is armed with a defensive and offensive weapon in his tusks.

That hideous animal of this tribe, the *Æthiopian boar*,¶ is

* Gen. xlvii. 17.

† xxii. 3.

‡ xii. 16.

§ *E. indicus*.

|| *Sus scrofa*.

¶ *Phaschochærus Africanus*.