

ence, deprives them of liberty, of every avenue to society, and destroys the very root of their intelligence. What they are become, or what they may become, is an inadequate indication of what they have been or might be. Who can say, if the human species were annihilated, to which of the animals would the sceptre of the earth belong?

THE STAG, OR RED DEER.*

THE Stag is one of those mild, peaceable, and innocent animals, which seem created to adorn and animate the solitudes of the forest, and to occupy, remote from man, the peaceful retreats of Nature. His light and elegant form, his flexible yet nervous limbs, his grandeur, strength, and swiftness, his head, rather adorned than armed with living branches, which, like the leaves of a tree, are every year renewed, sufficiently distinguish him from the other inhabitants of the forest. As he is the noblest
among

* The stag, in Greek *ελαφος*; in Latin *cervus*; in Italian *cervo*; in Spanish *ciervo*; in Portuguese *veado*; in German *hirsch*; in Danish *hiort*; in Swedish *kron hiort*; in Dutch *bert*; in Polish *jeljenii*.