

impossible that either of them could have found a passage from the one continent to the other, over any northern country ; and therefore the Mexican hog cannot be considered as an European hog degenerated, or changed, by the climate of America, but as an animal peculiar to the southern regions of that continent.

Ray and other naturalists, have maintained, that the humor discharged from the back of the Mexican hog is a kind of musk, an agreeable perfume, even as it exudes from the body of the animal ; that it is perceived at a considerable distance, and perfumes every place he inhabits, and through which he passes. I have, I must own, a thousand times experienced very contrary effects ; for so disagreeable is the smell of this moisture, on being separated from the body of the animal, that I could not collect it without being exceedingly incommoded. It becomes less foetid by being dried in the air, but never acquires the agreeable smell of musk, or of civet ; and naturalists would have expressed themselves with more propriety, if they had compared it to that of *castoreum*.