

perate climates. Thus we cannot doubt but the hippelaphus of Aristotle, which is met with among the Arachotas, and in the same countries with the buffalo, is the stag of Ardennes, and not the rein-deer.

If we now compare what Pliny says upon the tragelaphus with what Aristotle says upon the hippelaphus, and both with Nature, we shall find, that the tragelaphus is the same animal as the hippelaphus, and therefore the same as our stag of Ardennes. Pliny says, that the tragelaphus is of the stag species,* and only differs from him by the beard and the hair on his shoulders. These characters are positive, and can only be applied to the stag of Ardennes; for Pliny speaks elsewhere of the rein-deer under the name of *Alcé*. We think ourselves, therefore, sufficiently warranted to pronounce, that the tragelaphus of Pliny, and the hippelaphus of Aristotle, both denote the animal we call the *Stag of Ardennes*; and that the axis of Pliny is the animal commonly called the *Ganges Stag*. Though names have no influence on Nature, yet an explication of them is doing service to those who study her productions.

* Eadem est specie (cervi videlicet) barbâ tantum; et armorum villo distans quem *tragelaphon* vocant non alibi quam juxta Phasius amnem nascens. *Pliny. Hist. Lib. viii. c. 33.*