

not, therefore, say, that the name *alce*, is properly Greek or Latin; it seems to have been derived from the Celtic tongue, in which the elk is named *elch* or *elk*. The Latin name of the rein-deer is still more uncertain; many naturalists have thought that this was the *machlis* of Pliny, because this author, in speaking of the animals of the north, quotes, at the same time, the *alce* and the *machlis*, and says that the last particularly belongs to Scandinavia, and was never seen at Rome, nor even in all the extent of the Roman empire. Nevertheless, we find in Cæsar's Commentaries a passage that we can scarcely apply to any other animal than the rein-deer, and which seems to prove, that he existed at that time in the forests of Germany; and fifteen centuries after Julius Cæsar, Gaston Phœbus seems to speak of the rein-deer under the name of the *rangier*, as an animal which existed in his time in our forests of France: he even gives a tolerable description of this animal*, and of the method
of

* The Rangier is very much like the stag, but has considerably larger horns: when he is very much pressed in the chace he puts his hind parts against a tree, and bends his head to the ground, in which situation he is perfectly secure, as his horns completely defend his whole body, and the dogs are afraid to approach him. He is not higher than the
fallow-