

written of these two animals, and that he was the first author of the confusion in their names. He mentions at the same time the *alce* and the *machlis*, from which we ought naturally to conclude, that these two names mean two different animals: however, if we remark, 1. That he only simply names the *alce* without any description whatever. 2. That he alone has used the name *machlis*, which word is not to be found in either Greek or Latin, but appears to be coined, and which, according to Pliny's commentators, is changed into that of *alce* in many ancient manuscripts. 3. That he attributes to the *machlis* all what Julius Cæsar gives to the *alce*; we cannot doubt but the passage in Pliny is corrupted, and that these two names mean the same animal, namely, the elk. This question once decided will also decide another. The *machlis* being the *elk*, the *tarandus* must be the *rein-deer*. This name of *tarandus* is not to be found in any author before Pliny, and in the interpretation of which, authors have greatly varied; however, Agricola and Elliot have not hesitated to apply it to the *rein-deer*; and for the reasons just deduced, we subscribe to their opinion. Besides, we must not be surprised at the silence of the Greeks on the subject of