The male is generally larger, and its spots bigger than those of the female. The flesh of the lemings is horrid food, and their skins, though covered with a very beautiful fur, is of too little consistence to be serviceable.

THE SEA OTTER.

THEVET says, "the Saricovienne, or Sea Otter, is found by the sides of the river Plata; it is an amphibious animal, and lives as much in the water as upon land; it is full as large as a cat, its skin is a very dark grey, nearly black, and is extremely soft; its feet are webbed like those of water fowls; and its flesh is very good, and even delicate."

Naturalists do not seem to have been acquainted with this animal, nor to have known that the *carigueibeju* of Brasil, which is certainly the same, had membranes between the toes, for Marcgrave, who has given a description of it; totally omits this essential character. I am also of opinion that the *guachi*, mentioned by Gumilla, which is a species of otter in South