

ear ; that he has no tongue ; that the parts of generation are more like those of the human species than any other : that the milk of the female, which he asserts to have tasted, is very good ; that they produce but one young at a time, which they embrace and hold with their hands ; that the mother suckles it during a year, after which it is able to provide for itself : that this animal has fifty-two vertebræ ; that it feeds like the turtle, but can neither walk nor crawl upon land. All these facts are very exact, and even that of the fifty-two vertebræ ; for M. Daubenton in one he dissected found twenty-eight vertebræ in the tail, sixteen in the back, and six, or rather seven in the neck. This traveller is only deceived with respect to the tongue, which is not deficient in the manati, but affixed to the lower jaw almost to the extremity.

In the *Voyage to the American islands*, printed at Paris, 1722, we meet with a tolerable good description of the manati, and the manner in which it is taken by the harpoon. The author perfectly agrees with all the principal facts we have already mentioned ; but he observes, “ that this animal is become very rare in the Antilles since the coasts have been inhabited ; and that the one which he saw and measured, was fourteen feet nine inches, from
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