

there is reason to believe, that, whatever is said of the qualities of the one might with truth be affirmed of the other also, on the present occasion whatever is said is referable to the Arabian species^o. The camel, then, not only consumes less food than the horse, but can sustain more fatigue. A large camel is capable of carrying from seven to twelve hundred weight, and travelling with that weight on its back, at the rate of above ten leagues in each day. The small courier camel, carrying no weight, will travel thirty leagues in each day, provided the ground be dry and level. Individuals of each variety will subsist for eight or ten successive days on dry thorny plants; but after this period require more nutritious food, which is usually supplied in the form of dates and various artificial preparations: though, if not so supplied, the camel will patiently continue its course, till nearly the whole of the fat, of which the boss on its

^o The Bactrian species, which has two bosses on its back, is more peculiar to Tartary and northern Asia. The Arabian, which has only one boss, is not confined to the country from which it is named, but is the same species with that which prevails in northern Africa. As in the case of all domesticated animals the varieties of these two species are numerous: and it is a variety of the Arabian species, of a small height, to which the ancients gave the name of *dromedary*, from its employment as a *courier*: but in the magnificent work of St. Hilaire and Cuvier, (*Hist. Nat. des Mammifères*,) the term *dromedary* is adopted, in a specific sense, for all the varieties of the Arabian camel.