

to another order, the paresseux or sloths, which have great toes and long nails (p. 30). Their nails are folded up in a different fashion; they just enable the animal to walk; but slowly and awkwardly, somewhat in the same manner as if we were to fold our fingers on the palm of the hand, and bear upon our knuckles. On instituting a more just comparison between these bones of the ancient animal and the corresponding bones of the paresseux, he has satisfied us that the lion of the American President was an animal which scratched the ground and fed on roots.

One experiences something like relief to find that there never was such an enormous carnivorous animal as this denominated megalonix.

These unguical bones, or bones of the claws, exhibit a very remarkable correspondence with the habits and general forms of animals. Besides what we have seen in the lion, or tiger, in the dog or wolf, in the bear, and ant-eater, there is a variety, where we should least expect it, in the animals that live in woods, and climb the branches of trees. The squirrel, with claws set both ways, runs with equal facility up and down the bole, and nestles in the angles of the branches. The monkey leaps and swings himself from branch to branch, and springing parts with his hold by the hinder extremities, before