

COBB'S TOYS,
FOURTH SERIES,
No. 1.

STORIES

ABOUT THE

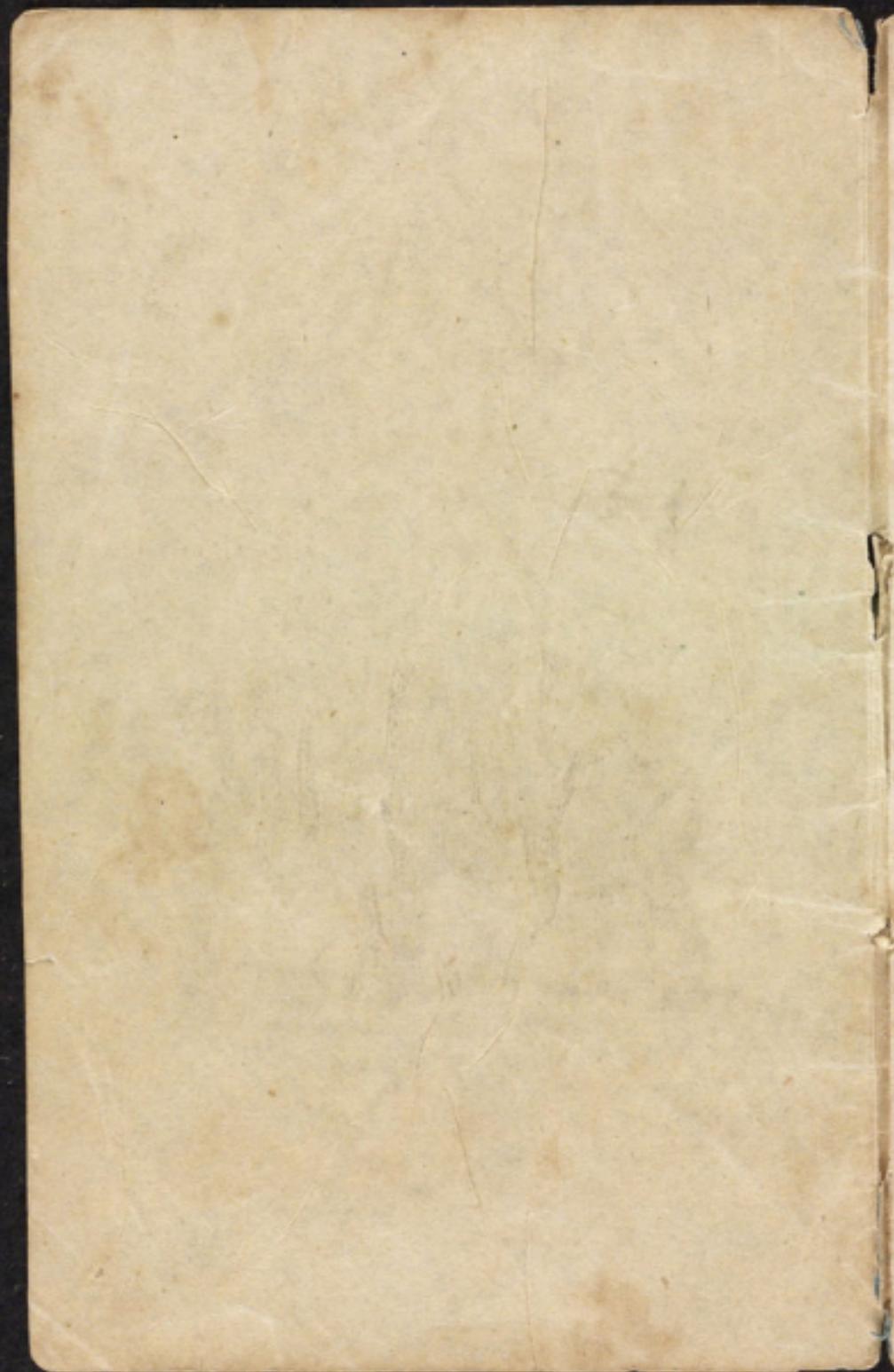
LION, ELEPHANT, CAMEL, DROMEDARY, TIGER,
PANTHER, LEOPARD, OUNCE, COUGAR,
AND JAGUAR.



NEW YORK:
COLLINS, KEESE, & CO.

1836.

PRICE SIX CENTS.

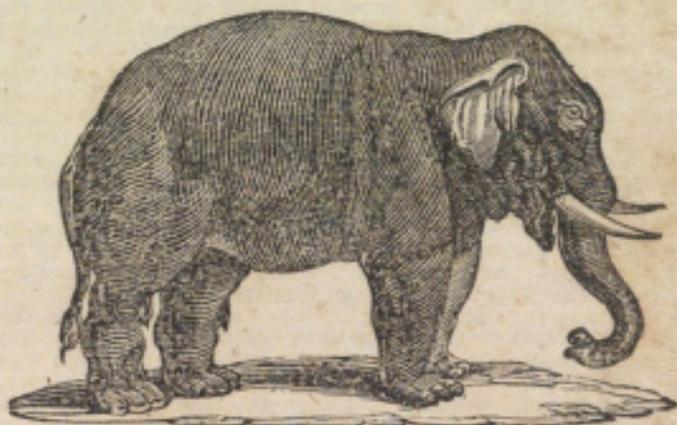


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ENTERED, according to the Act of Congress, in the year, 1836, by LYMAN COBB, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Southern District of New York.

PREFACE

TO THE FOURTH SERIES.

THIS Series of Toys contains a more extensive and general description of Animals, Birds, Fishes, &c. than was given in the First, Second, and Third Series; and, those described in this series, are, in general, foreign to this country, or less familiarly known to children, than those of which cuts and descriptions have been given in the three preceding Series. In this Series there are descriptions of Trees, Fruits, &c., which cannot fail to be interesting as well as instructive to children. There are two objects, which, in every juvenile book, should be aimed at—entertainment and instruction. Natural History is of great importance to children, particularly, as it is always the study of truth; and, besides, nothing more interests, exalts, and improves their minds, especially when it is illustrated by appropriate pictures or cuts.

Stories of Fiction, though told in a serious manner, and with a moral design, do not convey to the minds of children, any knowledge that is either useful or lasting. Nothing has been permitted, therefore, to find a place in this or any of the other Series of these Toys, which is *false, unnatural, and unphilosophical*, or any details of conversations among animals which never *did*, and which never *can* take place; for, it is fully believed, that in the large field of Nature and Art, there are sufficient materials for descriptions and stories, which will be interesting, amusing, and instructive to children, without launching into the fields of Fiction and Falsehood.

In these Toys an attempt has been made to graduate the size of the cuts or pictures so as to represent the comparative sizes of the Animals, Birds, &c. described, in the hope that by this plan, the acquirement of correct ideas among children, in relation to this subject, will be greatly facilitated; for, children imbibe very improper and confused opinions of the real dimensions of Animals, Birds, and Fishes, when the cuts which represent them are of the same, or nearly the same size, as is generally the case in Toy Books. This Series of Toys is designed for a class of my larger young friends, than the three preceding Series; and, it is confidently hoped that they will be amused, instructed, and benefited by a perusal of them.

NEW YORK, April 16, 1836.



THE LION.

THE LION is a native of Africa and the southern parts of Asia. Some Lions are said to be nearly five feet high, and between nine and ten feet from the nose to the end of the back; but, the ordinary height is between three and four feet. The Lioness is not as large. The general colour of the Lion is yellow. The Lion has been emphatically and justly called the *King of the beasts*. His form seems to speak the superiority of his qualities. His figure is striking; his look is bold and confident; his gait is proud; his voice is terrible; his stature is not overgrown, like that of the elephant or rhinoceros; nor is his shape clumsy, like that of the hippopotamus or the ox; he is, in every respect, compact and well proportioned, a perfect model of strength combined with agility; his face is broad, and some have thought that it

resembles the human face, and is surrounded with a very long mane, which gives it a most majestick appearance; the top of the head, the temples, the cheeks, the under jaw, the neck, the breast, the shoulders, the hinder part of the legs, and under part of the body, are all furnished with long hair, while the other parts of the body are covered with very short hair; his head is large and strong, his nose thick, his mouth very wide, and his teeth terrible; his tongue is exceedingly rough and prickly, so as to take off the skin of a man's hand by licking it; his eyes are bright and fiery, and, even in death, this terrible appearance does not forsake them; his ears are short and roundish, and almost concealed under the hair of his front; his fore feet have five distinct nails or claws on each foot; and the hinder but four; all crooked and sharp, with which he seizes his prey and tears it in pieces. Such is his strength, that he can break the back of a horse with a single stroke of his paw; he can carry off a small cow with ease; and can throw a strong man to the ground with the sweep of his tail. No animals oppose the Lion, but the elephant, the rhinoceros, the tiger, and the hippopotamus.

When the Lion is at rest, his appearance is very grave and majestick; but when he is angry and enraged, his look is terrible. He then lashes his sides with his tail, lifts up his

bristling mane, curls aside his lip, so as to show his monstrous teeth, while his eyes become so frightfully brilliant, that sparks of fire seem to shoot from them, and exhibit a picture of terrifick grandeur which no words can describe.

The sight and smelling of the Lion are very acute. He usually prowls about for food by night, and boldly attacks all animals that come in his way, sometimes uttering a roar so loud, that it sounds like distant thunder. His cry of anger is much louder, shorter, and reiterated.

The Lion seldom attacks any animal openly, except when compelled by extreme hunger: in that case, no danger deters him; but as most animals fear him, he is obliged to take his prey by surprise. For this purpose, he crouches on his belly in some thicket, or among the long grass, where he waits till his prey approaches; and then, with one prodigious spring he leaps upon it at the distance of fifteen or twenty feet, and generally seizes it at the first bound. The lurking-place of the Lion is generally near a spring, or by the side of a river, where he catches such animals as come to quench their thirst. He is said to prefer the flesh of the camel to that of any other animal. He is likewise exceedingly fond of that of young elephants, which he easily despatches, when unprotected by the dam. The Lion, on the whole, is a gen-

erous minded animal. He loves his keeper, and allows him to play with him. He often spares the lives of those animals that are thrown him to eat, lives with them in habits of sociability and friendship, and willingly shares with them the food that was given for his own support.

The Lion frequently lives to a great age, often to the age of seventy years.



THE ELEPHANT.

THE ELEPHANT is a native of the warmer parts of Asia and Africa, but is most numerous in the latter.

The usual height of the Elephant is from eight to twelve or fourteen feet. Its general colour is a dark ash-colour, nearly black. It

is the largest, the most sagacious, the strongest, and most docile animal in the world.

Its figure is very unsightly, inelegant, and clumsy; its forehead is very high; its eyes are very small, lively, bright, and expressive, the ears broad and long, in proportion to the body; but it can raise them with great facility, and make use of them as a fan to cool itself, and drive away the flies, or insects. Its body is covered with a hard, callous skin without any hair, and its texture is uneven and wrinkled, full of deep fissures, resembling the bark of an old tree; its stupendous legs are ill-shaped, like columns of from twelve to eighteen inches in diameter, and from four to six feet high, and are seemingly not qualified for motion; its neck is short and stiff; its feet are short, rounded at the bottom, divided into five toes each, and armed with nails of a horny substance, but which are so covered with skin, that they are scarcely visible.

Two long tusks proceed from its upper jaw, sometimes weighing one hundred pounds or more each. Between these tusks is its trunk, which is as useful to that animal as our hands are to us. This it can contract or lengthen at pleasure, as need requires. With this trunk it can take up the smallest object, and by it, it conveys all its drink and food to its mouth, where it is chewed by its great grinding teeth; and, with it, it can pick up a

pin, untie a knot, uncork a bottle, and open and shut a gate or door; and, when it is tame, it will take an apple out of a person's hand or out of his pocket. The Elephant smells and breathes through this trunk; and, at the end of it, the nostrils are placed, through which it draws in water, for the purpose of quenching its thirst, or of washing and cooling itself, which it performs by taking in a large quantity, and then spouting it over its whole body, as if it issued from a fountain. The Elephant can kill a man instantly with a blow of its trunk.

Elephants subsist on vegetables; they, however, will eat grain and fruit; but appear to have an antipathy against animal food. They associate in numerous herds; and, when one of them happens to discover a fertile spot, it instantly gives a loud signal to the rest, by way of inviting them to come and eat with it. The common pace or walk of the Elephant is not quicker than that of a horse; but when pushed, it assumes a kind of ambling pace, which is nearly equal to a gallop; but it turns with difficulty, and not without taking a pretty large circuit.

Although the Elephant is the strongest as well as the largest of all animals, yet in its wild state, it is neither fierce nor ferocious. It is peaceable, mild, and brave, and exerts its powers only in its own defence, or in defence of those of its own kind, with which it

is social and friendly. It seldom walks alone, but in companies, the oldest leading the herd; the next in age drives them, and forms the rear; the young and the weak are in the middle. The females carry their young, and hold them close with their trunks. They only observe this order, however, in perilous marches. When they march the forests seem to tremble under them.

When tamed, the Elephant becomes the most gentle, patient, and obedient of all animals as well as the most tractable and serviceable. It is so attentive to the commands of its master, that a word or a look is sufficient to stimulate it to the most violent exertions. Its attachment to its keeper is so great, that it caresses him with its trunk; it knows his voice, comprehends several of the signs made to it, and perfectly distinguishes the tone of command from that of anger or approbation. It executes the orders given it with prudence, eagerly, yet without precipitation. All its motions are mechanical and regulated, and partake of the gravity of its bulk. It is quickly taught to kneel down, to receive its rider, suffers itself to be harnessed, and draws chariots, cannon, shipping, ploughs, wagons, and carries burdens on its back, neck, or tusks; and, uniting sagacity to strength, it never breaks or injures any thing committed to its trust. Elephants were formerly used in war, to carry soldiers, in towers of wood on

their backs. It can do the labour of several horses. It can travel fifty or sixty miles in a day with ease, and, when hard pressed, almost double that distance.

The Elephant is very fond of musick, to the measure of which it readily learns to move. Its sense of smelling is likewise very exquisite; it is fond of the odour of flowers, and will gather them, and gratify itself by inhaling their fragrance. It will drink ale, wine, and spirituous liquors. Elephants appear to know more than any other brute animal; they are kind to those who treat them well; but they hurt or kill those who abuse or injure them.

An Elephant, passing along the street, put its trunk into a tailor's shop; the tailor pricked it with his needle: the Elephant passed on without any apparent signs of resentment; but coming to a puddle of dirty water, filled its trunk, returned to the tailor's shop, and spirted it over him and all his goods.

Elephants have been known to live, in a state of confinement, a hundred and thirty years.



THE CAMEL.

THE CAMEL is a native of Arabia.

The common or usual height of the Camel is from five, to six and a half feet, and it is from ten to twelve feet long. Its colour is light brown, with a little red on its back and sides ; under the neck, and on the breast, the colour is pale, or almost white. The shape or figure of the Camel is very homely and quite disagreeable. It has a short head, which is small and awkward ; small ears, and a long crooked neck ; it has no teeth in the upper jaw ; its body is short and large ; its legs are long ; and it is rendered remarkable not only by a large bunch on its back, but by large callosities at the bottom of the breast and on the knees, which well adapt it to its habits of kneeling ; and on the inside of each leg. Its feet are flat and tough, divided above, but not quite through, which

formation enables it to traverse the sandy deserts, without being subject to chops in the hoof.

The movements of the Camel are as homely as its shape, for it holds its neck and head as though it was in distress ; and it walks as if it hurt it to move. Its feet appear to have been intended to walk only on sandy ground ; for, being soft and flat, they would slip in the mud and throw itself down, and among stones, they would soon be bruised, and become sore ; its nostrils have the capacity of closing, so as to shut out the driving sand, when the whirlwind scatters it over the desert. But the peculiar and distinguishing characteristick of the Camel, is its faculty of abstaining from water longer than any other animal, being capable of sustaining a march of several hundred miles in a burning sandy desert without water. For this purpose, Nature has made a wonderful provision, in giving it, besides the four stomachs which it has in common with other ruminating animals, a fifth bag, that serves as a reservoir for water, where it remains without corrupting or mixing with the other aliments. Furnished with so capacious and so convenient a receptacle, it can take a large quantity of water at once, and remain many days without drinking. They can smell water at the distance of a mile and a half. Neither fatigue nor thirst wears out this strong and patient animal. Horses and

mules could not carry the same burdens, or endure the want of water, as the Camel does. God has fitted it for the countries where he has placed it, and adapted it to the service of mankind.

In Turkey, Arabia, Persia, and Egypt, their whole commerce is carried on by means of these useful animals. Of all the quadrupeds, the Camel is the most tame and submissive. It kneels down to be loaded and unloaded; and, even when overburdened, often makes the most piteous complaints, without offering the least resistance. When loaded, the Camel trots about twenty-five miles in a day; but when it carries only a man on its back, it can travel one hundred and fifty miles in a day. When fatigued, their conductors cheer them by a song, or the sound of some instrument. The Camel is to the Arabian, what the reindeer is to the Laplander. Its milk is rich and nutritive; its flesh, when young, is excellent food, wholesome and invigorating; and, its hair or fleece, which always falls off in the spring, is manufactured into fine stuffs, and almost every article necessary for clothing, bedding, and the covering of their tents.

The Camel lives entirely on vegetables, such as grass, hay, and grain. It will also eat thorns and thistles; but it can go without eating almost as well as it can without drinking; for, when it can not find grass, bushes,

or thorns, its master only gives it a few balls of a kind of dried bread every day.

The Camel has a large share of intelligence ; and, though it is a very patient animal, it will sometimes take revenge on its master, if he treats it cruelly, or strikes it without a cause.

Camels live forty or fifty years.



THE DROMEDARY.

THE DROMEDARY is not a different species, but only a distinct breed of the Camel, and is distinguished by a different name, by having two bunches on its back, while the Camel has but one. The Dromedary is inferiour in size and strength, but swifter in pace, and more extensively diffused, than the Camel ; the latter being seldom found, except in Arabia,

and some parts of the Levant, while the former extends over very spacious regions, and is common in Egypt, and all the northern parts of Africa, as well as in Persia, and some parts of Tartary and India.

When an Arab has excited the rage of a Camel or Dromedary, he throws down his garments in some place near which it is to pass, and places them in such a manner that they appear to cover a man sleeping under them. The animal recognises the clothes, seizes them in its mouth, shakes them with violence, and tramples on them in a rage. When its anger is appeased, it leaves them, and then the owner of the garments may make his appearance without any fear, load the animal, and guide it as he pleases.



THE TIGER.

THE TIGER is a native of Asia, and is found as far north as China and Chinese Tartary;

but it chiefly frequents the hot climates of India and the Indian Islands, particularly the hilly and wooded districts.

The Tiger is about the size of the lion, and sometimes even larger; it is much more slender in proportion to its size; its legs shorter; and its neck and body longer. In short, of all other animals, it most resembles the cat in shape. Its ears are small; its mouth wide; and its teeth and claws are long and terrible.

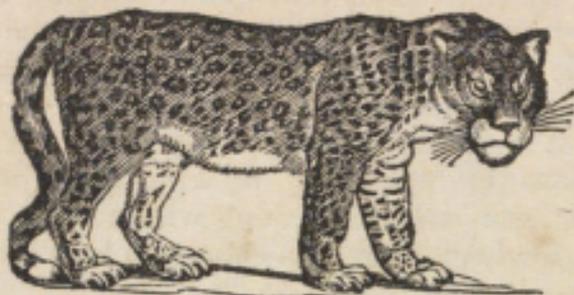
The Tiger, in appearance, is a most beautiful animal. The hair is smooth and glossy, of a deep yellow colour, with very black stripes around its body. Its form is slender, truly elegant, and well adapted for swiftness and agility.

Though the Tiger is very beautiful in form and colour, yet it is one of the most odious of all animals. It is generally ranked next to the lion, but it is wholly destitute of those noble qualities for which the lion is admired. It is fierce without provocation, and cruel without necessity. It delights in blood, and seems to kill for the mere pleasure of killing. Though glutted with slaughter, it is never satisfied; but it still continues the carnage, and apparently has its courage inflamed by not meeting with any resistance. When undisturbed, the Tiger plunges its head up to the very eyes, into the body of its victim, and quaffs large draughts of blood. Its method

of taking its prey is the same as that of the lion, by concealing itself, and springing suddenly on its victim. The strength of the Tiger is amazing. When it has killed any large animal, such as a buffalo or a horse, it carries it to a remote part of the forest, for the purpose of devouring it with the greater ease; and it bounds along with a rapid motion, unchecked by the enormous load which it sustains.

The Tiger is the only species of quadrupeds which can not be tamed. Neither force nor restraint, neither kindness nor severity, affects its savage disposition. It snaps at the hand which supplies it with food, with the same ferocity as that by which it is chastised.

The Tiger attacks all kinds of animals, except the elephant and rhinoceros. Furious combats occasionally happen between the tiger and the lion, in which both sometimes perish.



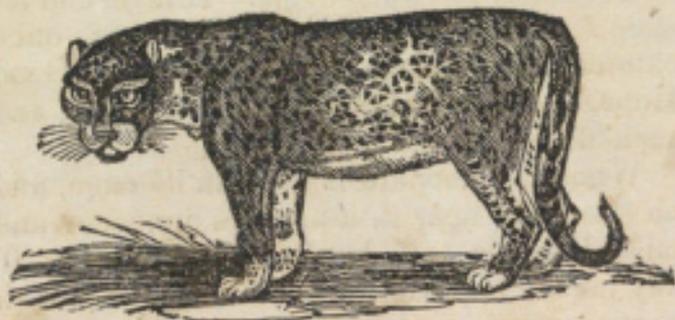
THE PANTHER.

THE PANTHER is a native of Africa, and inhabits the country from Barbary to the remotest parts of Guinea.

The Panther is about six feet long. It resembles the tiger in its habits, and the leopard in its skin. Like the tiger it has an insatiable thirst for blood, and is very fierce and ferocious; and like the leopard its skin is spotted, but is less beautiful. Its hair is short, sleek, and mossy, and its colour is, in general, of a bright yellow, elegantly marked with black spots, disposed in circles of four or five each, with a single spot in the centre; its chest and under part of the body are white; it has short and pointed ears, fierce and restless eyes, a strong harsh cry, and a savage aspect. The movements of the Panther are so rapid, that few animals can escape it; and, such is its agility that it climbs trees in pursuit of its prey with the greatest ease, and

springs from them sometimes to an astonishing distance, and is always sure of seizing its victim.

The flesh of animals is said to be its favourite food; but, when pressed by hunger, it makes its attacks without any discrimination.



THE LEOPARD

THE LEOPARD is a native of Africa and Asia.

The size of the Leopard is less than that of the panther.

The skin of the Leopard is exceedingly beautiful, much more so than that of the panther, the yellow being more brilliant and lively, with smaller spots of black than those of the panther, not disposed in rings or circles, but in circular groups or clusters of four or five spots. Every part of its skin is spotted with black.

The Leopard is hunted principally for the sake of its skin, which is very valuable, and applied to various ornamental uses. Its flesh is also much relished by the negroes, who frequently take them in pitfalls, baited with a piece of meat, or some small animal.

Leopards are very fierce, and attack both man and beast. When they can not obtain a supply of food in the desert, they sometimes make terrible destruction among the sheep and cattle of the inhabitants. A male and female Leopard, with their young ones, once entered a sheepfold near the cape of Good Hope, and killed about a hundred sheep, and sucked their blood.

When the Leopard is quiet in its cage, and no one goes near it, it appears innocent and mild, like the cat; but when it is eating, if any person approaches it, or strikes at it with a stick or whip, it shows its teeth, growls, and appears very fierce and dangerous. When two are in a cage, one seems to wish the other dead, so that it could have all the food that is given for both. They are so selfish and quarrelsome, that they can not live in peace with each other. When a piece of meat is thrown in for them, they will not divide it, and each take a part, but both wish the whole, so that they continue to growl and strike each other, as long as any of the meat remains. When the meat is all eaten up, and there is nothing to quarrel about, they be-

come good natured and friendly, and lie down quietly together. Some naughty boys act very much like the Leopards, and quarrel about many trifling things, instead of playing in harmony, and very often hurt each other badly. Good boys never fight and quarrel about any thing, but submit all their differences to their parents or teachers, and patiently abide by their decision and advice in all matters.



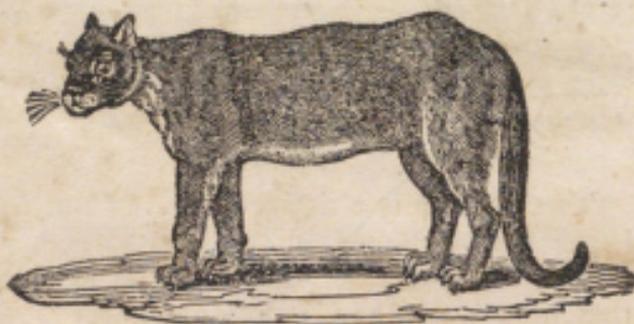
THE OUNCE.

THE OUNCE is a native of Africa and Asia, being very common in Barbary, Persia, and China. The size of the Ounce is less than that of the panther, being about three feet and a half in length; its colour is whitish gray, lighter on the breast and under part of the body; its hair is long; the head is marked with small round spots; the back is

beautifully varied with a number of oval figures, formed by small spots almost touching each other; the spots on the side are more irregular; its teeth and claws are very strong and sharp.

The Ounce is very ravenous, and destroys all animals that it can master.

The Ounce is frequently tamed and used for the purpose of hunting. Its scent, however, is not as good as that of the dog. It hunts solely by the eye, and makes only a few springs at its prey. It is so nimble, as to clear a ditch or a wall of many feet. It often climbs trees to watch animals that are passing, and suddenly darts upon them and seizes them by the neck.



THE COUGAR.

THE COUGAR is a native of the American continent. It is found in many parts of North

America, from Canada to Florida. It is also common in Guiana and Brazil. In North America it is called the Panther, and often vulgarly and incorrectly the Painter.

Its usual length is about five feet three inches; its general colour is a lively red, mixed with black, especially on the back, where it is darkest; its head is small; it has no mane; its body and legs are long.

The Cougar is fierce and ravenous in the extreme; and it will swim rivers to attack cattle, even in their enclosures. It is very destructive to hogs, sheep, moose, and deer. It lies lurking upon the branch of a tree, till some of these animals pass underneath, when it drops down upon one of them, and never quits its hold till it has drunk its blood. It purs like a cat, and howls dreadfully.

The fur of the Cougar is soft, and is used by the Indians for a winter dress; the skin, when dressed, is made into gloves and shoes.

Its flesh is white, and, by the Indians, is reckoned excellent food

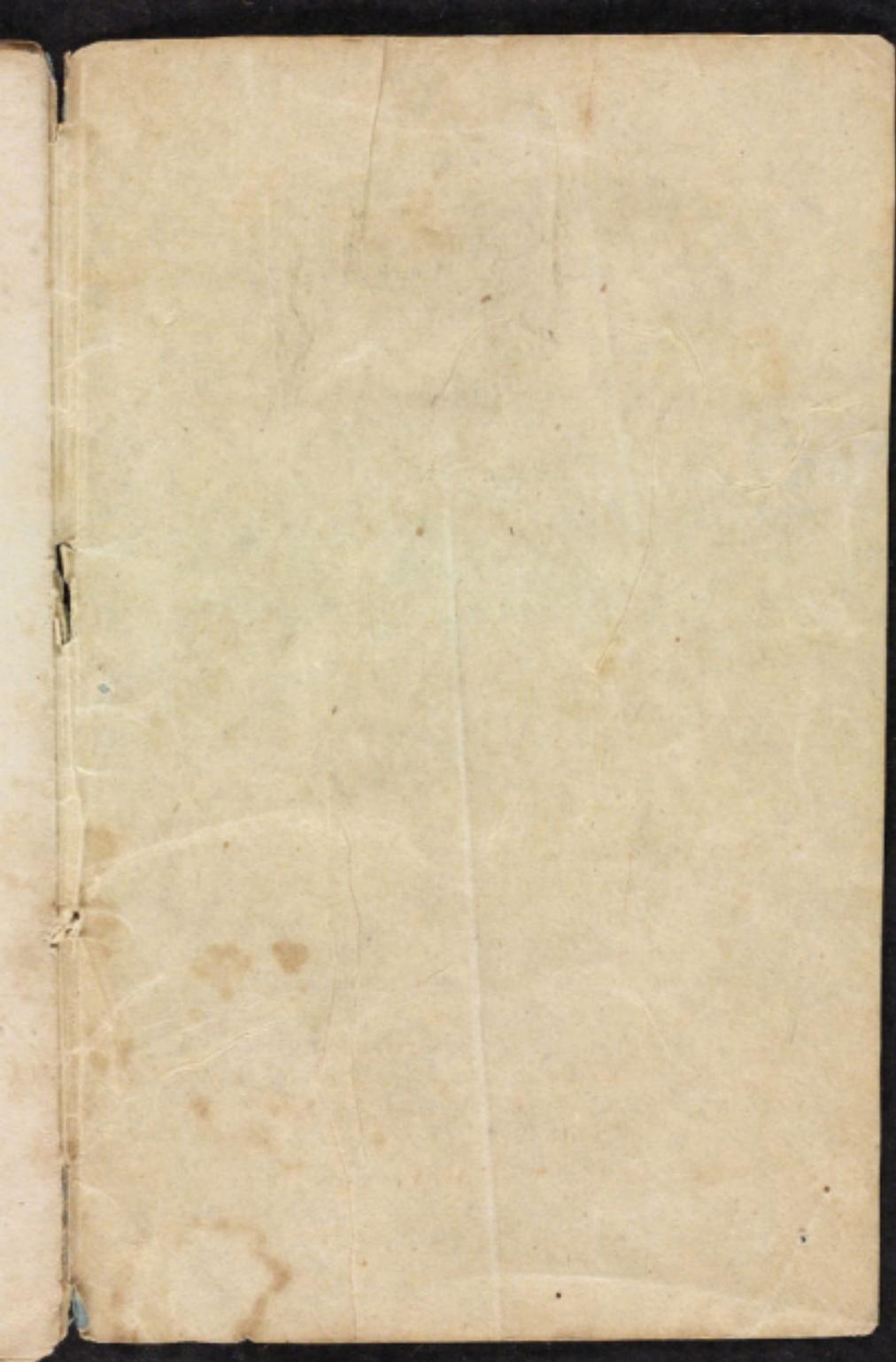


THE JAGUAR.

THE JAGUAR, or American Tiger, is a native of the hottest part of South America. Its usual size is less than a panther, and about the size of a wolf. In its shape it resembles the panther. Its colour is a brownish yellow, with black streaks and long open spots; the thighs and legs are marked with black spots, without the central spaces.

The Jaguar is fierce and sanguinary; but its cowardice is equal to its ferocity. It will attack small animals and cows, and even horses, which seem to be its favourite prey. It can easily carry off a sheep or a deer.

The Jaguar is a solitary animal: it inhabits thick forests, especially in the neighbourhood of great rivers. It is said, that the Jaguar has a singular and curious way of taking fish. It stands in the water out of the stream, and drops its saliva or spittle on the surface of the water, which draws the fish after it within its reach, when it seizes the fish with its paw, throws it on shore, and then eats it.



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