

H I S T O R Y O F Q U A D R U P E D S.

Div. I. H O O F E D.

SECT. I. Whole Hoofed.

II. Cloven Hoofed.

Hoof consisting of one piece.
 Six cutting teeth in each jaw.

SECT. I.
 I. HORSE.

- Equus* Gesner *quad.* 404. *Raii syn. quad.* Le Cheval. *de Buffon.* iv. 174. *tab. I.*
 62. *Pferdt. Klein quad.* 4. *Br. Zool.* I. 1. I. GENEROUS.
Equus cauda undique fetosa E. ca- Wild horse. *Leo Afr.* 339, *Hakluyt's coll.*
ballus. Lin. syst. 100. *Hæft. Faun.* *voy.* I. 329. *Bell's trav.* I. 225.
suec. No. 47. *Zimmerman.* 138. 140.
Equus auriculis brevibus erectis, juba *Smellie's de Buffon.* III. 306. *tab. xi* *.
longa. Brisson, quad. 69.

H. with a long flowing mane; tail covered on all parts with long hairs.

Cultivated in most parts of the world. The most generous and useful of quadrupeds; docile, spirited, yet obedient: adapted to all purposes, the draught, the road, the chace, the race. Its voice neighing; its arms, hoofs and teeth; its tail of the ut-

* An excellent translation of that celebrated author, published in 1785 in nine volumes octavo, London.

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most use in driving off insects in hot weather. Subject to many diseases; many from our abuse; more from our too great care of it. Its *exuvia* useful: the skin for collars and harness: the hair of the mane for wigs; of the tail for the bottoms of chairs, floor-cloths, ropes, and fishing-lines. *Tartars* feed on its flesh, and drink the milk of mares; and both *Kalmucks* and *Mongals* distil from it a potent spirit.

WILD IN ASIA.

The horse is found wild about the lake *Aral*; near *Kuzneck*, in lat. 54; on the river *Tom*, in the south part of *Siberia**, and in the great *Mongolian* deserts, and among the *Kalkas*, N. W. of *China*. The *Mongolians* call them *Takija*. They are less than the domestic kind, and of a mouse-colour, with very thick hair, especially in winter. They have greater heads than the tame; their foreheads are remarkably arched. They go in great herds, and will often surround the horses of the *Mongals* and *Kalkas* while they are grazing, and carry them away†. They are excessively vigilant; a sentinel placed on an eminence, gives notice to the herd of any approaching danger, by neighing aloud, when they all run off with amazing swiftness. They are often surprised by the *Kalmucks*, who ride in amongst them mounted on very swift horses, and kill them with broad lances. They eat the flesh, and use the skins to lie on‡. The wild horses are also taken by means of hawks, which fix on the head, and distress them so as to give the pursuers time to overtake them. In the interior parts of *Ceylon* is a small variety of the horse, not exceeding thirty inches in height; which is sometimes brought to *Europe* as a rarity.

* *Bell* i. 225.† *Du Halde*, ii. 254.‡ *Bell* i. 225.

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The horse is said to be found in a state of nature in the deserts of *Africa*, to be caught there by the *Arabs*, and eaten*.

IN AFRICA.

The travellers under the conduct of *Mynbeer Henry Hop*, saw abundance far north of the cape; they also met with wild asses †: but have not favored us with any remarks, or descriptions of either.

Distinction must be made between the wild horses of *Asia* above mentioned, and those in the deserts on each side of the *Don*, particularly towards the *Palus Mæotis* and the town of *Backmut*. These were the offspring of the *Russian* horses employed in the siege of *Asep* in 1697, when, for want of forage, they were turned loose, and which have relapsed into a state of nature, and grew as wild, shy, and timid as the original savage breed. The *Cossacks* chase them, but always in the winter, by driving them into the vallies filled with snow, into which they plunge and are caught; their excessive swiftness excludes any other method of capture. They hunt them chiefly for the sake of the skins: if they catch a young one, they couple it for some months with a tame horse, and so gradually domesticate it. These are much esteemed, for they will draw twice as much as the former.

ALSO WILD, THE
OFFSPRING OF
TAME HORSES.

The horses of the wandering *Tartars*, carried away by the herds of the wild kind, mix and breed together. Their offspring are very distinguishable by their colors, which are composed of variety of shades of chestnut.

No horses are to be met with in any place within the *Arctic* circle, except there should be a few in the extreme part of *Nor-*

* *Leo Afr.* Engl. ed. 340.† *Journal Historique*, 40.

way. They are found in *Iceland*; originally transported from *Norway*, and perhaps from *Scotland*, there having been an early intercourse between it and *Iceland*. In that island the horses for labor endure all the severity of the year abroad. I imagine they live, like the rein-deer, on moss, as they are said to scrape away the snow with their feet to * get at the ground, and obtain subsistence. During winter, their hair grows long and thick, which preserves them against the cold. Towards summer they shed their coat, and the new one is smooth and sleek.

Kamtshatka is entirely destitute of horses, and of every domestic animal except dogs: which, with the rein-deer, are the substitutes of horses used by the natives. *America*, before the arrival of the *Europeans*, was in like circumstances, or rather worse; for instead of the dog it had only a wolfish cur; nor do either the *Greenlanders* or *Eskimaux* make any other use of the rein-deer, than to supply themselves with its flesh for food, and its skin for raiment. But I reserve a more particular account of the adventitious animals of the new world for its intended Zoology.

D SHIKKETAEI, Equus hemionus, *Mongolis* DSHIKKE- LAS. Nov. com. *Petrop.* xix. 394. tab.
 TAEI dictus, describente P. S. PAL- vii. *Zimmerman* 666.

H. of the size and appearance of the common mule, with a large head, flat forehead, growing narrow toward the nose, eyes of a middle size, the irides of an obscure ash-color. Thirty-eight teeth in all; being two in number fewer than in a

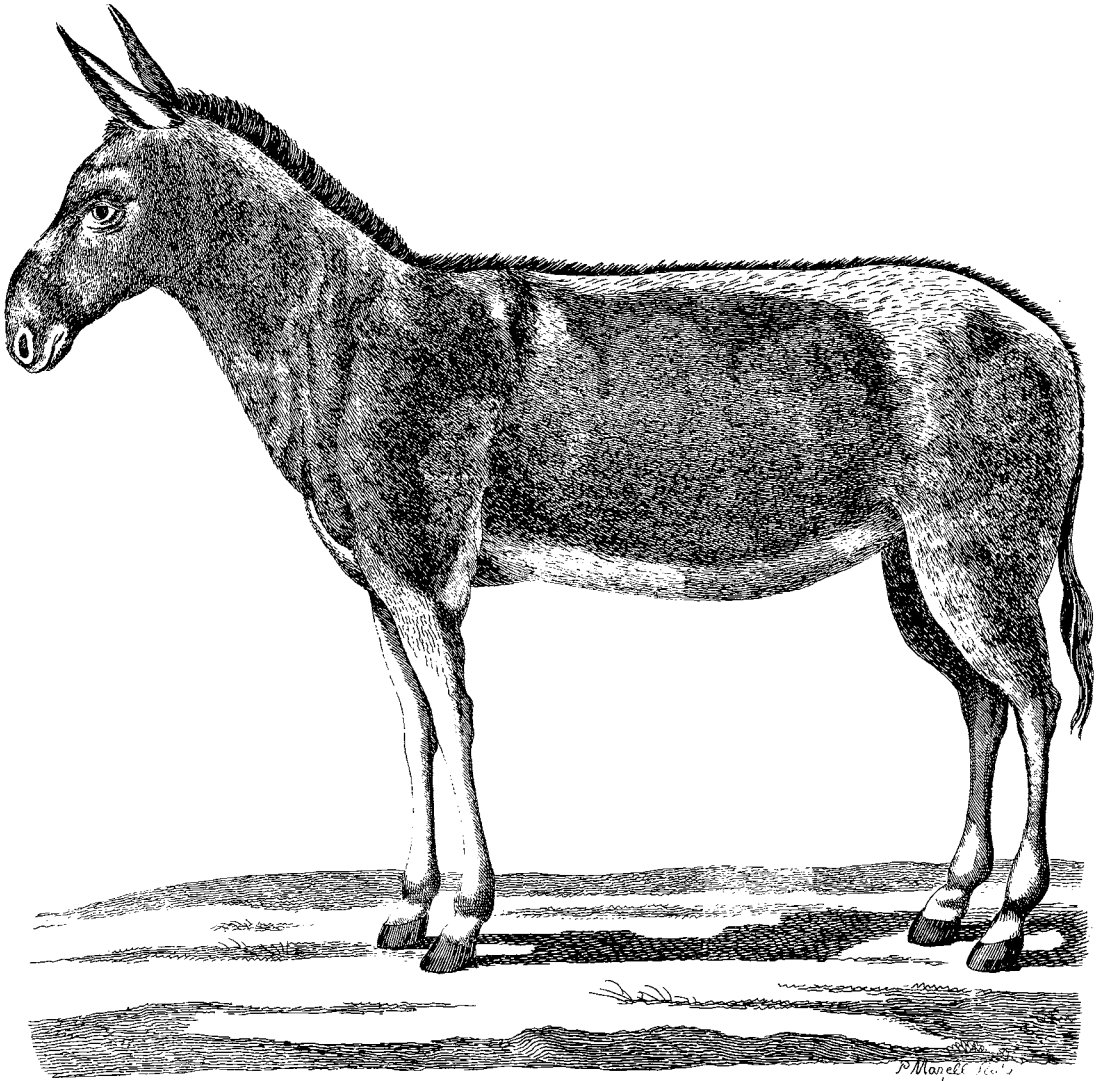
OR WILD MULE.

* *Horrebow*, 44. They also resort to the shores, and feed on the marine plants. *Von Troil*, hist. Icel. Eng. ed. 134.

common

I.

4.



Equus hemionus, or Wild Ass. — N. 2.

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common horse. Ears much longer than those of a horse, quite erect, lined with a thick whitish curling coat. Neck slender, compressed: mane upright, short, soft, of a greyish color: in place of the foretop, a short tuft of downy hair, about an inch and three quarters long.

Body rather long, and the back very little elevated. Breast protuberant and sharp.

Limbs long and elegant: the thighs thin, as in a mule's. Within the fore legs, an oval callus, in the hind legs none. Hoofs oblong, smooth, black. Tail like that of a cow, slender, and for half of its length naked. The rest covered with long ash-color'd hairs.

Its winter coat grey at the tips, of a brownish ash-color beneath; about two inches long, in softness like the hair of a camel; and undulated on the back. Its summer coat is much shorter, of a most elegant smoothness, and in all parts marked most beautifully with small vortexes. The end of the nose white; from thence to the foretop inclining to tawny. Buttocks white, as are the inside of the limbs and belly. From the mane a blackish testaceous line extends along the top of the back to the tail, broadest on the loins, and growing narrower towards the tail. The color of the upper part of the body a light yellowish grey, growing paler towards the sides.

WINTER COLOR.

SUMMER COLOR.

Length from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail, six feet seven inches. Length of the trunk of the tail one foot four; of the hairs beyond the end eight inches. The height three feet nine.

SIZE.

Inhabits the deserts between the rivers *Onon* and *Argun* in the most southern parts of *Siberia*, and extends over the vast plains and

PLACE.

and deserts of western *Tartary*, and the celebrated sandy desert of *Gobi*, which reaches even to *India*. In *Siberia* these animals are seen but in small numbers, as if detached from the numerous herds to the south of the *Russian* dominions. In *Tartary* they are particularly conversant about *Taricnoor*, a salt lake, at times dried up. They shun wooded tracts and lofty snowy mountains.

MANNERS.

They live in separate herds, each consisting of a chief, a number of mares, and colts, in all to the number of about twenty; but seldom so many, for commonly each male has but five, and sometimes fewer females. They copulate towards the middle or end of *August*, and bring for the most part but one at a time, which by the third year attains its full growth, form, and color. The young horses are then driven away from their paternal herds, and keep at a distance, till they can find mates of their own age, which have quitted their dams. These animals always carry their heads horizontally; but when they take to flight, hold them upright, and erect their tail. Their neighing is deeper and louder than that of a horse.

UNTAMEABLE.

They fight by biting and kicking, as usual with the horse: they are fierce and untameable; and even those which have been taken young, are so intractable as not to be broken by any art which the wandering *Tartars* could use. Yet was it possible to bring them into fit places, and to provide all the conveniencies known in *Europe*, the task might be effected: but I suspect whether the subdued animal would retain the swiftness it is so celebrated for in its state of nature. It exceeds that of the *Antelope*; it is even proverbial: and the inhabitants of *Tibet*, from the fame of its rapid speed, mount on it *Ghammo*, their God of FIRE. The *Mongolians* despair of ever taking it by the chase,

GREAT SWIFT-
NESS.

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chace, but lurk behind some tomb, or in some ditch, and shoot them when they come to drink, or eat the falt of the desert.

They are excessively fearful, and provident against danger. A male takes on him the care of the herd, and always is on the watch. If they see a hunter, who, by creeping along the ground, has got near them; the centinel takes a great circuit, and goes round and round him, as discovering somewhat to be apprehended. As soon as the animal is satisfied, it rejoins the herd, which sets off with great precipitation. Sometimes its curiosity costs it its life; for it approaches so near as to give the hunter an opportunity of shooting it. But it is observed, that in rainy or in stormy weather, these animals seem very dull, and less sensible of the approach of mankind.

SHYNESS.

The *Mongolians* and *Tungusi* kill them for the sake of the flesh, which they prefer to that of horses, and even to that of the wild boar, esteeming it equally nourishing and wholesome*. The skin is also used for the making of boots.

USES.

Their senses of hearing and smelling are most exquisite: so that they are approached with the utmost difficulty.

The *Mongolians* call them *Dshikketai*, which signifies the eared; the *Chinese*, *Yo to tse*, or mule†.

NAMES.

In ancient times the species extended far to the south. It was the *Hemionos*, or *half ass*, of ARISTOTLE ‡, found in his days in *Syria*, and which he celebrates for its amazing swiftness and its fecundity, a breeding mule being thought a prodigy||; and *Pliny*, from the report of *Theophrastus*, speaks of this species being found in *Cappadocia*, but adds they were a particular kind §.

* *Du Halde*, ii. 253.

† The same.

‡ *Hist. An.* lib. vi. c. 36.|| *Plinii Hist.* lib. viii. c. 44.

§ The same.

The

COMMON MULES.

The domestic mules of present times are the offspring of the horse and ass, or ass and horse: are very hardy; have more the form and disposition of the ass than horse. The finest are bred in *Spain*; very large ones in *Savoy*. The synonyms of this beast are the following:

MULE. *Mulus*. *Gesner quad.* 702. *syn. quad.* 64. *Briffon quad.* 71.
 Maul efel. *Klein quad.* 6. *Equus mulus*. *Lin. syst. Faun. suec.* No. 35. *Br. Zool.* I. 13.
 Le Mulet. *De Buffon*, iv. 401. xiv. 336.

3. Ass.

Afinus. *Gesner quad.* 5. *Raii syn. quad.* 63. *Equus afinus*. *Eq. caudæ extremitate festofa, cruce nigra supra*. *Lin. syst.* 100.
 Esfel. *Klein quad.* 6. *Afna*. *Faun. suec.* No. 35. *ed.* 1746.
 L'ane. *De Buffon*. iv. 377. *Afs*. *Br. Zool.* I. ii.
Equus auriculis longis flaccidis, juba brevi. *Briffon quad.* 70. *Smellie's de Buffon*. III. 398. tab. xii.

TAME:

H. with long flouching ears, short mane, tail covered with long hairs at the end. Body usually of an ash color, with a black bar crosses the shoulders.

Patient, laborious, stupid, obstinate, slow. Loves mild or hot climates: scarcely known in the cold ones. Ears flouch most towards their northerly habitations. Remarkable for their size and beauty in *Africa* and the East.

WILD ASS, OR
KOU LAN.

Onager. *Varro de re rust.* lib. ii. c. 6. *Pallas in act. acad. Petrop.* ii. 258.
 p. 81. *Plinii Hist. Nat.* lib. viii. c. 44. *Zimmerman*. 666.
Oppian Cynege. ii. *Lin.* 184.

The *Koulan*, or ass in a wild state, must be described comparatively with the foregoing species in some respects.

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The forehead is very much arched : the ears erect, even when the animal is out of order ; sharp-pointed, and lined with whitish curling hairs : the irides of a livid brown : the lips thick ; and the end of the nose sloping steeply down to the upper lip : the nostrils large and oval.

The *Kowlan* is much higher on its limbs than the tame ass, and its legs are much finer ; but it again resembles it in the narrowness of its chest and body ; it carries its head much higher : its skull is of a surprising thinness.

The mane is dusky, about three or four inches long, composed of soft woolly hair, and extends quite to the shoulders ; the hairs at the end of the tail are coarse, and about a span long.

The color of the hair in general is a silvery white ; the upper part of the face, the sides of the neck, and body, are of a flaxen-color : the hind part of the thighs are the same ; the fore part divided from the flank by a white line, which extends round the rump to the tail : the belly and legs are also white : along the very top of the back, from the mane quite to the tail, runs a stripe of bushy waved hairs of a coffee-color, broadest above the hind part, growing narrower again towards the tail ; another of the same color crosses it at the shoulders (of the males only) forming a mark, such as distinguishes the tame asses : the dorsal band, and the mane, are bounded on each side by a beautiful line of white, well described by *Oppian*, who gives an admirable account of the whole.

COLOR.

Its winter coat is very fine, soft, and silky, much undulated, and likest to the hair of the camel ; greasy to the touch : and the flaxen color, during that season, more exquisitely bright. Its summer coat is very smooth, silky, and even, with exception of

WINTER COAT.

SUMMER.

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certain