

having taken possession of its post, nothing can drive it off; its enormous prey drives rapidly along amongst the thickest woods, rubs itself against the largest trees, and tears down the branches with its expanded horns; but still its insatiable foe sticks behind, eating its neck, and digging its passage to the great blood vessels that lie in that part. Travellers who wander through these deserts often see pieces of the glutton's skin sticking to the trees against which it was rubbed by the deer. But the animal's voracity is greater than its feelings, and it never seizes without bringing down its prey; when therefore the deer, wounded and feeble with the loss of blood, falls, the glutton is seen to make up for its former abstinence by its present voracity. As it is not possessed of a feast of this kind every day, it resolves to lay in a store to serve it for a good while to come. It is indeed amazing how much one of these animals can eat at a time. That which was seen by Mr. Velein, although without exercise or air, although taken from its native climate, and enjoying but an indifferent state of health, was yet seen to eat thirteen pounds of flesh every day, and yet remain unsatisfied. We may therefore easily conceive how much more it must devour at once, after a long fast, of food of its own procuring, and in the climate most natural to its constitution. We are told accordingly that from being a lank, thin animal, which it naturally is, it then gorges in such quantities that its belly is distended and its whole figure seems to alter. Thus voraciously it continues eating till, incapable of any other animal function, it lies totally torpid by the animal it has killed; and in this situation it continues for two or three days. In this loathsome and helpless state it finds its chief protection from its horrid smell, which few animals care to come near; so that it continues eating and sleeping till its prey be devoured, bones and all, and then it mounts a tree in quest of another adventure."

He then proceeds to state that the glutton prefers putrid flesh to that of the animals newly killed, that it pursues the beaver, plunders the traps and snares set by the hunters, digs open graves and devours the bodies interred therein, and is so universally predacious that the natives of the countries where the animal inhabits hold it in detestation, and usually term it the Vulture of quadrupeds. Another author, *OLAUS MAGNUS*, from whom perhaps Goldsmith compiled much of his history, says that the Arctic fox provides for the glutton in the same manner that the jackal was reputed to hunt for the lion. And *GMELIN* informs us that