

over the country, and along the sides of lakes and rivers ; and the punctuality with which they return is one of the most striking proofs of the fidelity of the animals. When winter arrives, their labour and slavery begin anew, to support which it is necessary that these dogs should be extremely vigorous. They are not, however, remarkably large, but resemble pretty much our shepherd dogs. Every inhabitant possesses at least five of these, which they use when they travel, and when they go to cut wood, and for the conveyance of their effects and provisions, as well as their persons. These dogs are harnessed to a sledge, two and two together, with a single one before as a leader. This honour is bestowed on the most intelligent, or the best trained dog ; and he understands wonderfully the terms used by the conductor to direct his course. The cry of *tagtag* turns him to the right, and *kougha* to the left ; the intelligent animal understands it immediately, and gives the rest the example of obedience ; *ah, ah*, stops them, and *ha* makes them set off. The number of dogs that is necessary to harness depends upon the load ; where it is little more than the weight of the person who mounts the sledge, it is considered as a common sledge, and the team consists of five dogs. The harness is made of leather. It passes under the neck, that is, upon the breast of these steeds, and is joined to the sledge by a strap three feet long, in the manner of a trace ; the dogs are also fastened together by couples passed through their collars, and these collars are frequently covered with bear-skin, by way of ornament.

The form of the sledge is like that of an oblong basket, the two extremities of which are elevated in a curve. Its length is about three feet and its breadth scarcely exceeds one foot.— This kind of basket which composes the body of the sledge is of very thin wood ; the sides are of open work, and ornamented with straps of different colours. The seat of the charioteer is covered with bear-skin, and raised about three feet from the ground, upon four legs, which are fastened to two parallel planks,