

first, and was slain before she reached the ground. The cubs followed, and were seized by throwing a rope round their necks, and carried off either for the purpose of training or eating them; for the flesh is delicate and good: that of the adult is eatable; but as it is mixed with an oily fat, their paws and hams only are reckoned a delicate dish.—The more general way of hunting the bear in this country now is by the musket, the hunter being aided by two or more dogs. He is still, however sometimes caught in traps set on purpose. The amazing fatness of the bear makes him light for swimming; and, accordingly, he traverses with ease, rivers and lakes. In autumn, he is so fat, that he can scarcely walk, or, at least, he cannot run so quick as a man.—Upon his sides and thighs, he has sometimes ten inches thick of fat. The soles of his feet are gross and inflated. When wounded, there issues out a white lacteous juice. This part appears to be composed of glands, like papillæ; and it is for this reason, that these animals, during their winter retreat, continually suck their paws.

The RACCOON, which some authors have called the Jamaica rat, is of the size and figure of a small badger. His body is thick and short, and the hair long, bushy, black at the points, and gray underneath. His head resembles that of the Fox; but his ears are round and much shorter. The eyes are large, and of a yellowish green colour. Above the eyes, a black band runs across; the muzzle is slender, the nose somewhat turned up, and the upper lip advances beyond the under one.—He has, like the dog six cutting teeth, and two canine in each jaw. The tail is bushy, as long as the body, and marked alternately with black and white rings through the whole extent. The fore-legs are much shorter than the hind ones; and there are five toes, armed with strong sharp claws, on each foot. The hind-feet rest so much on the heel, that the animal can elevate and support his body in a position inclined forwards. He uses the fore-feet in carrying food to his mouth. But, as his toes are rigid, and have little flexibility, he uses both hands at a time in laying hold of what he is about to eat. Though thick and short, he is very agile. His claws, which are as sharp as thorns, enable him to climb trees with great facility. He mounts the trunk with alacrity, and runs to the extremities of the branches. He goes by leaps, rather gambols than walks, and his movements, though oblique, are quick and light. Naturalists, and, among the rest, Buffon and Goldsmith, have asserted, that the Raccoon is not indigenous to Canada; but that they are wrong, we have only to appeal to the history of the fur trade, and to every resident in the country. So far is the contrary the case, that the flesh of this animal is held in great estimation by many of the inhabitants of both provinces; and we ourselves, on various occasions, have seen whole carcasses of Raccoons exposed for sale in the Montreal market at a price which would by no means justify their want of reputation as a delicate dish. The Raccoon does not acquire its full growth till it be two years and a half old.

The CANADIAN-LYNX is known by the name of *Chat-cervier*, because this animal, like all others, is smaller in the New than the Old Continent. In the former, it is compared to the wolf; in the latter to the Cat. Charlevoix says, "In the woods of Canada, there are a great many wolves, or rather *Chat-cervier*; for they have nothing in common