

For besides the great and Magnificent Works which Nature has
 given, and which have composed of what they found in the
 world, and which they found from those who had found some
 new things, I have likewise some particular Remarks which
 Travellers have written of Abundance of Animals which are found
 only in the Countries where they have been: And those who
 have made the History of the Animals of the World, have
 not forgotten that of the Animals which are to be found in it.

MEMOIRES FOR THE NATURAL HISTORY OF ANIMALS

Chiefly employed their diligence and industry, the rest not belonging
 to them, but to those who had made the Description of the Animals
 on the place, and whose exactness and diligence could not be
 denied. So that the Method of writing them, is not the same as
 of which these Authors have made use, being for the most part
 not a Description, but a History.

HISTORY, of what Nature soever it be, is written after two
 Ways: In the one are related all the things which have been
 at several times collected, and which do belong to the Subject
 it Treats of. In the other we are confined to the Narrative of some
 particular Acts, of which the Writer has a certain Knowledge. This
 last way, which the Romans did call *Commentaries*, and the French
Memoires, although it contains only the Parts, and as it were the
 Elements which do compose the Body of History, and has not the
 Majesty found in that which is general, yet claims this Advantage;
 that Certainty and Truth, which are the most recommendable Quali-
 ties of History, cannot be wanting in it, provided the Writer be
 exact and sincere; which is not sufficient for the general Historian,
 who oftentimes cannot be true, how desirous soever he be after the
 Truth, and what care soever he employs to discover it; because
 he is allways in danger of being deceived by the *Memoires* on
 which he builds.