

very small specks, which form the distinguishing characteristic of our land salamander. We are of opinion, therefore, that we may consider this Japanese lizard, as a variety of the species of our land salamanders, modified a little, perhaps, by the climate of Japan; it is in the largest island of that empire, named Nippon, that this variety is found; it inhabits the mountains there, and rocky places. The Japanese consider it as a powerful stimulant, and a very active remedy; and on this account, in the neighbourhood of Jedo, a number of these Japanese salamanders may be seen dried, hanging from the ceilings of the shops.

The *Dragon* has been magnified into a terrific animal by authors of all ages, and to whom the most dreadful destructive powers have been applied: happily however no such animal, at present at least, is known to exist; and the only one of that name is a little harmless flying lizard, that preys upon insects, and even seems to embellish the forest with its beauty. Fable and superstition so long dwelt upon the description of the death-dealing dragon, that even to this day, the uncivilized people of Africa and America traverse the forests with terror, lest they should
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