

he has often done me the honour of inviting me to see them ; and he has even given me several species for the advantage of this work. This animal (*fig.* 161) was sent very young to him, and had not arrived at its full growth when the cold killed it. It is not a hog, as naturalists and travellers have pretended ; it only resembles that animal by trifling marks, and differs from it by striking characters. The largest *cabiai* is scarcely as big as a hog of eighteen months growth. The head is shorter, and its mouth less ; the eyes are larger, the number and form of the teeth are different, it wants a tail, and is web-footed ; the hoofs before are divided into four parts, and those behind into three ; between the divisions there is a prolongation of the skin, so that the feet, when opened in swimming, can beat a greater surface of water in which it frequently lives ; it swims like an otter, seeks the same prey, and seizes the fish with its feet and teeth, and carries them to the banks to eat. It also eats fruits, corn, and sugar-canes. As its feet are broad and flat it often sits upon its hind ones. Its cry more resembles the braying of an ass than the grunting of a hog. It seldom stirs out but at night, and almost always in company without going far from the sides of the water.