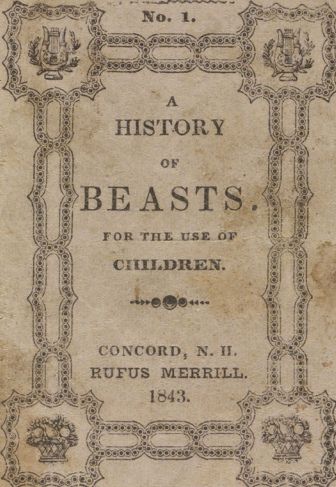


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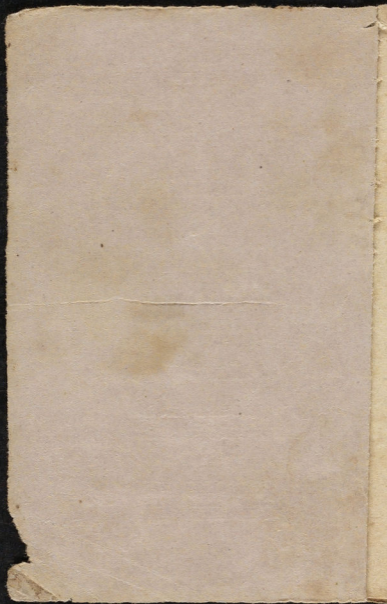


A
HISTORY
OF
BEASTS.

FOR THE USE OF
CHILDREN.



CONCORD, N. H.
RUFUS MERRILL.
1843.



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1843.



The Lion

can be tamed. The keepers of wild beasts often amuse themselves by playing with him, and sometimes they punish him for disobedience. One man used to put his head into the lion's mouth—a rather dangerous play.

BEASTS.



Lion.

The lion is a native of Africa and Asia. His length is mostly from six to nine feet; and his tail, which ends in a tuft of hair, is four feet long. His usual color is a dusky brown. He has a large head, a shaggy mane, and an eye very bright and fierce. His strength is very great; he can break the back of a horse with one stroke of his paw, and throw a strong

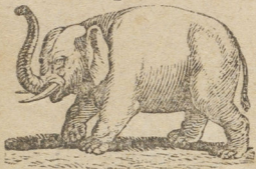
man on the ground with one sweep of his tail. When he comes up to his prey, he always knocks it down dead; and utters a roar, that at a distance, sounds like thunder. The lion eats a great deal; when he is confined in a cage, he is allowed about four pounds of raw flesh each day. His teeth are very strong; he easily breaks the bones of the animals which he eats, and swallows them with the flesh. He is called the KING OF BEASTS. The lioness is smaller than the lion, and has no mane.

Leopard.



The leopard is a native of Asia and Africa. He is about 4 feet in length. His coat is very brilliant, and the spots are disposed in clusters of four or five. He is a fierce animal, and attacks both man and beast. They are hunted principally for the sake of their skins, which are valuable, and applied to various ornamental uses.

Elephant.



The elephant is a native of the warmer parts of Asia and Africa. He is the largest land animal in the world, varying from 9 to 12 feet in height. Two long tusks proceed from his upper jaw, of 100 pounds weight, or more, which he uses to defend himself against his enemies. Be

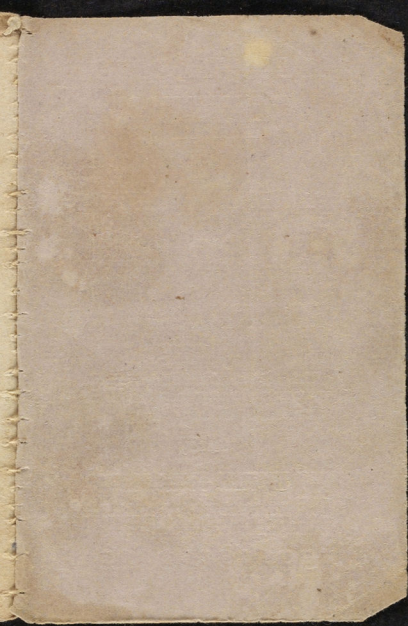
tween the tusks is his trunk. This is several feet long, and by means of it he conveys all his food and drink to his mouth. With it he can pick up a pin, untie a knot, uncork a bottle, and unlock a door. A single blow of his trunk will kill a man.

When tamed, the elephant becomes gentle and obedient. He shows his fondness for his master by caressing him, and, when he wishes to ride, kneels for him to mount upon his back, and even lifts him up there with his trunk. — Many instances have been related of his exhibiting gratitude for favors.

Buffalo.



The buffalo is a wild animal of the ox kind, found in the wild regions of the United States. They are hunted more for their skins than flesh by white men, yet to the Indian both are of great service. The skins of the cows furnish the fine "buffalo robes," so useful and comfortable to us in winter.



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