

cotton in the animal's mouth, and then tied a bladder over its head to prevent evaporation"<sup>4</sup>.

As Hoffmann's Sloth appears to be more plentiful in Central America than the Three-toed species, it is probably the animal which Captain Dampier met with in his 'Voyages to Campeachy,' and of which he speaks as follows:—

"The Sloth is a four-footed, hairy, sad-coloured Animal; somewhat less than the Ant-bear, and not so rough: Its Head is round, its Eyes small; it has a short Nose, and very sharp Teeth; short Legs, but extraordinary long sharp Claws. This Creature feeds on Leaves, whether indifferently of all sorts, or only on some particular kinds, I know not. They are very mischievous to the Trees where they come, and are so slow in Motion, that when they have eaten all the Leaves on one Tree, before they can get down from that and climb another, and settle themselves to their fresh Banquet (which takes them up five or six Days, though the Trees stand near,) they are nothing but Skin and Bones, although they came down plump and fat from the last Tree. They never descend till they have stript every Limb and Bough, and made them as bare as Winter. It takes them up eight or nine Minutes to move one of their Feet three Inches forward; and they move all their four Feet one after the other, at the same slow rate; neither will stripes make them mend their pace; which I have tried to do, by whipping them; but they seem insensible, and can neither be frightened, or provoked to move faster"\*.

## Suborder II. ENTOMOPHAGA.

The second suborder of Edentata is a much larger and more heterogeneous assembly than the first, divisible into at least four families, and comprising such varied forms as the Anteaters and Armadillos of America, and the Pangolins and Ant-Bears of Asia and Africa. Both the Neotropical families, Dasypodidæ and Myrmecophagidæ, are represented in our fauna.

### Fam. I. DASYPODIDÆ.

#### 1. TATUSIA.

*Tatusia*, Fréd. Cuvier, ap. Lesson, Man. de Mamm. p. 309 (1827)†.

*Dasypus*, Wagler, Syst. Amph. &c. p. 36 (1830, nec Fréd. Cuvier).

The Linnæan genus *Dasypus* was co-extensive with the family Dasypodidæ of modern

\* Dampier's Voyages, ii. 2, p. 61.

† Frédéric Cuvier called the Armadillos without incisors "Tatusies" (Dents des Mamm. p. 195, 1825); and two years later the name *Tatusia* is given by Lesson as above, "*Dasypus*, L., F. Cuv.," being retained for *D. sexcinctus*. When Wagler divided the Linnæan genus he retained *Dasypus* for the present group; but Cuvier's names have clear priority, and have also the advantage of having been generally used, though almost always with an incorrect reference to the 'Dents des Mammifères.'