

feet on his shoulder, and seized him by the opposite ear with the talons of the other. The poor child began to cry out, while his little brother three years old, who had a stick in his hand, tried to strike at the Eagle, but it did not let go. This perhaps prevented it from tearing the child's eyes and face with its beak [152] and gave the father time to come to his assistance. When the bird heard the noise of human voices, it appeared somewhat surprised, but did not loose its prey. The father, who ran up, had to break its thigh; and as, by good fortune, he had a sickle in his hand, when the Eagle felt itself wounded and tried to fly away, he cut off its head at the same time. The Savages say that Eagles very often swoop down on men; that they sometimes carry off Beavers, and Sturgeon heavier than sheep. This does not seem to me to be very probable. Some say that they are Griffins and that some have been seen in these countries. I merely relate what I have heard.

I do not remember whether I have already mentioned that a Frenchman fired an arquebus at a crane, and broke its wing, whereupon the bird ran straight at him on its long legs, thrusting its beak like a half-pike at his face, but with such impetuosity that the hunter had to leave the battle-field to his enemy. He finally overcame it [153] by strata-gem; for, after concealing himself in the woods, and reloading his arquebus, he put an end not only to its flying, but also to its running.

God has given anger to all animals that they may repel what is hostile to them. Even tortoises revenge themselves on their enemies. There are several kinds here: some have a thick and strong shell,