

## V.

## THE ZEMNI, or PODOLIAN MARMOT\*.

IN Poland and Russia there is another animal called *ziemni* or *zemni*, which is of the same genus with the *zifet*, but larger, stronger, and more mischievous. The head is pretty thick, the body slender, and the ears short and rounded. It has four large cutting teeth, which project out of the mouth, the two in the under jaw being thrice as long as the two in the upper. The feet are very short, covered with hair, divided into five toes, and armed with crooked claws. The hair is soft, short, and of a mouse-gray colour. The tail is of a moderate size. The eyes are as small, and equally concealed, as those of the mole. Rzaczinski gives it the denomination of the *little earth dog*. This author seems to be the only one who mentions the *zemni*, though

\* Podolian marmot, with the cutting teeth of the lower jaw half as long again as those of the upper; eyes very minute, and as much hid in the fur as those of the mole; four toes, and a claw instead of the fifth, on the four feet; five on the hind; tail short; colour cinereous; size of a squirrel; Pennant's *Symplic. of Russ.* p. 277.

Zitz-jan; *Le Brun, Voyag. Moscov.* vol. ii. p. 402.

it be very common in some of the Northern provinces\*. Its natural dispositions and habits are nearly the same with those of the hamster and *zifet*. It bites cruelly, eats voraciously, and lays waste the corn fields and gardens. It digs a habitation in the earth, and feeds upon grains, fruits, and pot-herbs, of which it lays up magazines in its retreat, where it passes the winter.

## VI.

## THE POUČ.

RZACZINSKI mentions another animal which is larger than the domestic rat, and called *pouč* by the Russians. It digs a retreat in the earth, and lays waste the gardens. This animal was so numerous near Suraz in Volhnia, that the inhabitants were obliged to abandon the culture of their gardens. It is perhaps the same with Seba's *Norwegian rat*, of which he gives a figure and description†.

\* Reperitur hoc animal in Podolia, Ukraina, Volhnia circa Suraz, Chodaki, Reinki, Mofezemica, Szurawow, et aliis; non raro erant ab agricolis ibidem vomeribus; Rzaczinski; *Act.* p. 325. et 326.

† Mus ex Norwegia cinereo fuscus; rostro gaudet folio, capite longiusculo, brevibus latiusque auriculis, promisso mystace utriusque ad latera nasum rigente, dorsum ejus latum et incurvum