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NATURAL HISTORY.

THE ELEPHANT\*.

**I**F the human species be excepted, the Elephant is the most respectable animal in the world. In size he surpasses all other terrestrial creatures; and, by his intelligence, he makes as near

\* The Elephant has a long cartilaginous trunk, formed of multitudes of rings, plant in all directions, and terminated with a small moveable hook. The nostrils are at the end of the trunk, which is used, like a hand, to convey any thing into the mouth. This animal has no cutting teeth, but four large flat grinders in each jaw, and in the upper, two vast tusks, pointing forwards, and bending a little upwards; the largest of them imported into Britain are seven feet long, and weigh 152 pounds each. The eyes are small, and the ears long, broad and pendulous. The back is much arched. The legs are thick, and very clumsy and flapselous. The feet are undivided; but their margins are terminated by five round hoofs. The tail is like that of a hog. The colour of the skin is dusky, with a few scattered hairs on it; Pennant's *Species*.

In Greek, *Elephas*; in Latin, *Elephantus*; *Barrak* is Spanish; *Elephante*; in German, *Elphants*; in the East, *Elph. Phil.*, or *Elh*, is a Chaldean word which signifies  *ivory* , and Munster uses it to denote the  *Elephant* . In the East Indies the elephant