inches long, lying smooth only where it is short, on the bead, legs, and ears. On examination it seems to partake more of thc nature of feathers, or of the porcupine’s quills, tl∣an of hair, though it is thin, flexible, and not straight, but un­dulated. The musk is a secretion formed in a little bag or tumour, resembling a wen, situated at the navel, and is found only in the male. The musk-deer is here deemed the property of the state, and hunted only by the permission of the government. Another animal of great importance in Tibet is the goat, whose coat affords materials for that exquisitely fine and beautiful manufacture, the shawl. Cap­tain Turner saw numbers of this valuable animal feeding, in large flocks, upon the thin dry herbage that covers those naked looking hills. It is the most beautiful species among the whole tribe of goats ; of various colours, black, white, of a faint bluish tinge, and of a shade somewhat lighter than a fawn. They have straight horns, and are of a lower stature than the smallest sheep in England. The outward covering of the animal is of coarse long hair ; but the wool that is next the skin is of a light fine texture ; and its softness is preserved by the external coat. This delicate creature is indebted for the softness of its coat to the nature of the climate which it inhabits; and it will not thrive in the hot atmosphere of Bengal, nor will it bear transportation by sea. A breed of wild horses is found in Tibet, which are distinguished for their fleetness, and which are never taken alive, so as to be rendered serviceable, or domesticated ; and even when they are taken young they pine away and die, being vicious, stubborn, and untameable. They are said to be hunted, and, when they are killed, their flesh is esteemed a great delicacy. The domestic horses which they use are ex­tremely docile. They are not natives of Tibet, but arc brought from Eastern Tartary and the borders of Toor- kistan as merchandise. They are never shod. Before they are permitted to be transported, care is taken to de­prive them of the power of propagating their species, and mares are never met with in the country. They are quiet, sure-footed creatures, but slow and ugly. Among the valuable animals of Tibet, their breed of sheep merits a distinguished place. Their flocks are numerous, and their chief reliance is placed on them for present support, as well as for winter food. A peculiar species seems indigenous in this climate, marked almost invariably by black heads and legs. They are of a small size, with soft wool ; and their flesh, which is almost the only animal food eaten in Tibet, is of a very fine flavour. They are occasionally em­ployed as beasts of burden, and numerous flocks of them are often to be seen laden with salt and grain, each carrying from twelve to twenty pounds. They are the bearers of their own wool to the best market, where it is usually fabri­cated into a narrow cloth resembling frieze, or a thick coarse blanket. When slaughtered, their skins are most commonly cured with the wool on, and form a most excellent defence against the winter cold to the peasant and the traveller. The skins of lambs are also cured with the wool on, and constitute 3 valuable article of traffic; and to obtain the skin in its highest perfection, the dam is sometimes killed before her time of yeaning, by which a silky softness is se­cured for the fleece, which gives it a very high value. It serves particularly for lining vests, and is in equal estimation all over Tartary, as well as in China.

Though the soil of Tibet is in genera) barren and unim­provable, and though no great return can ever be expect­ed from agriculture, the country abounds in mineral wealth, and industry and skill are only wanting to turn these sources to account. Gold is found in great quantities, and fre­quently very pure. It is obtained sometimes in large masses, lumps, and irregular veins. It is also found in the beds of rivers in the form of gold dust, and at their several bend­ings generally attached to small pieces of stone, with every appearance of its having been a larger mass. Cinnabar,

containing a large portion of quicksilver, is found in Tibet, and might be advantageously extracted by distillation if fuel were more plentiful ; but it is remarkably scarce, which is a great disadvantage ; and they are often forced to sub­stitute for fire-wood the dried dung of animals. The most valuable discovery that could be made for Tibet would be a coal-mine ; and this mineral is found in some parts of the country bordering on China. Two days’ journey from Te- shoo Loomboo there is a lead-mine. The ore is much the same as that found in Derbyshire, mineralized by sulphur, and the metal is easily obtained, namely, by the simple opera­tion of fusion. Copper-mines are found, which furnish ma­terials for the manufacture of idols, and all the ornaments disposed about the monasteries on which gilding is bestow­ed. Iron is more frequently to be found in Bootan than in Tibet ; and it is not a branch of industry which could be followed in Tibet, owing to the want of fuel for smelting the valuable ores. Rock-salt is obtained in great abundance ; and tincal is found in the bed of a lake about fifteen days’ journey from Teshoo Loomboo. The country contains in­exhaustible quantities of it. It is brought to market in the state in which it is dug out of the lake, and afterwards re­fined into borax in this country.

Tibet carries on trade with the surrounding states, though not to any great extent ; the inhabitants not being either commercial or industrious, and the surplus produce of the country being besides inconsiderable. Neither is commerce favoured by the government, the first member of the state being a merchant, who enjoys a monopoly for himself and others of all the chief branches of trade. The exports con­sist of gold, musk, tincal, goats’ hair, and rock-salt. The goats’ hair is conveyed to Cashmere, and is of that superior sort of which the celebrated shawls are manufactured ; and the salt is exported to Nepaul and Bootan. A consider­able commerce is carried on with China, for the most part at a garrison town on the western frontier of China named Silling or Sinning. The exports are gold dust, precious stones, musk, and woollen cloths ; in return for which are received gold and silver brocades, silks, teas, tobacco, quick­silver, China ware, furs, and some silver bullion. Gold dust, musk, and tincal, are exported to Bengal ; and the imports are broad cloth, trinkets, spices, particularly cloves, pearls, coral, amber, kincobs, Matilda cloths, Rungpoor leather, tobacco, and indigo. British manufactures of woollen would furnish a considerable article of import. The extreme rigour of the climate requires warm clothing ; and the dress of the lower classes consists of woollens of an inferior kind, and in winter of sheep or foxes’ skins cured with the wool and fur on. When they travel, they carry a weight of clothing that bids defiance to the most piercing winds. Having no other manufactures, they are obliged to encumber them­selves with a heavy load of their own rude clothing. When woollen cloths of a better description are brought to the country by the travelling merchants who frequent it, they are bought up with great eagerness. The better classes are dressed in silks and furs. A trade is also carried on with Russia, though not to any great extent. This prin­cipally consists in hides, which are prepared in the adjacent districts, and are brought also from Kalmuc Tartary to the same mart, where all the rich and valuable furs that pass in merchandise between the Russians and Chinese may be procured on easy terms. There are few manufactures, and those only such as are of the coarsest kind and required for domestic use. They are famous, however, for the ma­nufacture of images. At Teshoo Loomboo there is an ex­tensive board of works established under the direction of the monastery, which is constantly employed in this manufacture.

Respecting the religion of the inhabitants of Tibet, little is known. It seems to be a schismatical offspring of the re­ligion of the Hindoos, deriving its origin from one of the followers of that faith, a disciple of Buddh, who first broach-