Ariſtotle ſays, that hogs in general live twenty years ; and adds, that both males and females are fertile till they arrive at the ape of fifteen. They can engender at the age of nine or twelve months ; but it is better to restrain them till they be eighteen months or two years. The firſt litter of the ſow is not numerous ; and, when only one year old, her pigs are weak, and even imperfect. She may be ſaid to be in ſeaſon at all times. Though full, ſhe ſolicits the ap­proach of the male. This may be regarded as an exceſs among animals ; for almoſt every other ſpecies refuſe the male after conception. The ardour of the ſow, though almoſt perpetual, is however marked by paroxyſms and im­moderate movements, which always terminate by her wal­lowing in the mire. She, at the same time, emits a thick whitiſh fluid. She goes four months with young ; brings forth in the beginning of the fifth ; and ſoon afterwards ſo­licits the male, is impregnated a ſecond time, and of courſe brings forth twice a-year. The wild ſow, which every way reſembles the domeſtic kind, produces only once a-year. This difference in fertility is probably owing to want of nouriſhment, and the neceſſity of suckling her pigs much longer than the domeſtic ſow, which is never allowed to nurſe her young above fifteen days or three weeks. Only eight or nine of the litter are kept longer ; the reſt are fold. In fifteen days, pigs are excellent food.

As theſe creatures, though exceedingly voracious, will feed almoſt on any thing, they are bred and kept everywhere, and are quickly and cheaply fatted. In miry and in marſhy grounds (From which they are not averſe) they devour worms, frogs, fern, ruſh, and sedge roots. In drier and in woody countries, they feed on hips, haws, ſloes, crabs, maſt, cheſnuts, acorns, &c. and on this food they will grow fleſhy and fat. They are a kind of natural ſcavengers, will thrive on the traſh of an orchard, the outcaſts of the kitchen, the ſweepings of barns and granaries, the offals of a market, and moſt richly on the refuſe of a dairy. If near the sea, they will ſearch the ſhores for ſhell fiſh ; in the fields, they eat grass ; and in cities and large towns they are kept in great numbers, and ſupported chiefly by grains. It is evident that the facility of feeding them everywhere at a ſmall ex­pence, is a national benefit, more eſpecially in a country where the people are accuſtomed to eat fleſh daily, and could not perhaps perform their daily labour if they did not. It is no less obſervable, that notwithſtanding this facility of feeding, and the multitudes of ſwine maintained, they ſeldom fail of coming to a good market. In no part of Europe is the management of theſe creatures better understood than in Britain. The time of farrowing is adjuſted to the nature of the farm, the food it can ſupply ; and the number of pigs sold and kept are in like manner adjuſted. New kinds of food, more wholeſome and nutritive than what were uſed formerly, have been introduced, ſuch as turnips, carrots, clover, &c. They are in moſt places regularly managed and cloſely attended. Tuſſer, many years ſince, affirmed from his own experience, that a ſow might bring as much profit as a cow. In ſome counties, it is ſaid, a ſow de­pendent on a dairy hath produced, all expences deducted, about 10 l. in the ſpace of a year. It may be ſome ſatisfaction to the reader to know, that, on a nice calculation, the annual profits of a ſow in France are found to be be­tween 50 and 60 livres.— In Britain, theſe animals in differ­ent counties are of very different ſizes. In Leiceſterſhire, Northamptonshire, and Pembrokeſhire, they are very large. In Hampshire, Wiltſhire, and wherever they can run in the woods, and feed on maſt and acorns, their fleſh is firmer and better. The Chineſe ſwine are common with us : they are ſmaller, blacker, and their legs ſhorter than ours : ſo that, when fat, their bellies literally touch the ground. They thrive exceedingly well with us, are very prolific, and their fleſh very fine and well-taſted.

In conſidering the advantages derived from theſe crea­tures, it is to be obſerved, that the fleſh of all their different kinds, and at all ages, is looked upon as a very ſubſtantial and agreeable aliment; and of courſe, in their proper ſeaſons, the different sorts of proviſions thus ſupplied are all of them very ſaleable. The wild boar was eſteemed a prime delicacy amongſt the Romans, and the fleſh of the tame was much more in favour with our anceſtors than with us ; though brawn has ſtill many admirers, is made in the greateſt per­fection, and conſidered as a rarity peculiar to this country. Pork, though it might be wisely prohibited in ſome warm countries, is found by experience equally nutritive and ſalutary here. As ſuch it furniſhes a very large proportion of that food which is vended in our markets. It takes salt better, and keeps longer, than the fleſh of any other animal; and the conſumption of it is prodigious when pickled or ſalted, more eſpecially in our foreign garriſons and in the ſea-ſervice. Our bacon is differently cured, ſo as to render it acceptable to all palates ; and our hams are not at all in­ferior to thoſe of other countries. Freſh pork fells nearly as dear as beef ; the lard brings double or triple the price ; the blood, the inteſtines, the feet, and the tongue, are all prepared as food. The fat of the inteſtines and web, which differs from common lard, is employed for greaſing axles of wheels, and for many other purpoſes. Sieves are made of the ſkin ; and bruſhes, pencils, &c. of the briſtles. The dung is reputed next in value to that of ſheep. Mr Worlidge @@\* propoſes that ſwine ſhould be turned into a cloſe well- paled, and planted with greens, pulſe, and roots, on which they may feed, and by their trampling and their dung raiſe a great quantity of excellent soil. Mr Mortimer @@\* aſſures us that ſome, on poor light ſhallow land in Staffordſhire, ſow a ſmall white pea, which they never reap, but turn in ſo many hogs to eat them as they think they will fat ; and there they lie day and night, and their dung will ſo enrich the land, that it will bring a good ſward upon it, and will graze many years afterwards. Our old huſbandmen had an ill opinion of this dung, as ſupposing it bred weeds, but it will probably not obtain much credit at present. In some places they waſh with hogs dung for want of ſoap ; which anſwers tolerably well, it the linen hangs long enough in the air to become thoroughly ſweet.

The wild boar was formerly a native of our country, as appears from the laws of Hoel dda, who permitted his grand huntſman to chace that animal from the middle of Novem­ber to the beginning of December. William the Conque­ror puniſhed with the loss of their eyes any that were con­victed of killing the wild boar, the flag, or the roebuck ; and Fitz-Stephen tells us, that the vaſt foreſt that in his time grew on the north side of London, was the retreat of ſtags, fallow-deer, wild boars, and bulls. Charles I. turned out wild boars in the New Foreſt, Hampſhire ; but they were deſtroyed in the civil wars.

On the continent the wild boar is hunted with dogs, or killed by ſurpriſe during the night, when the moon ſhines. As he runs ſlowly, leaves a ſtrong odour behind him, and defends himſelf againſt the dogs, and often wounds them dangerouſly, fine hunting dogs are unneceſſafy, and would have their noſe ſpoiled, and acquire a habit of moving ſlow­ly by hunting him. Maſtiffs, with very little training, are ſufficient. The oldeſt, which are known by the tract of their ſect, ſhould only be attacked : A young boar of three years old is difficult to hunt down ; becauſe he runs very far with­out stopping. But the older boars do not run far, allow