

cured by the Russians for the Chinese market, where it sells for a high price.

This animal haunts sea-washed rocks, and lives mostly in the water, where it procures its food, which consists of fish, and, as is indicated by the character of the teeth, which are evidently formed for bruising hard substances, shelled mollusks, and crustacea. In summer the Sea-Otter often ascends the rivers to the inland lakes. The female produces on land a single cub. The average length of this species is three feet, exclusive of the tail, which measures about ten inches.

There are several species of rats, mice, marmots, and squirrels in California. Mr. Farnham informs us that the Pouched Rat (*Pecudostonia bursarium*), and the small marmot (*Arctomys Beecheyi*), are found in California, the latter being very plentiful in the plains near San Francisco and Monterey, burrowing in the ground and carrying in its capacious chest pouches, a store of nuts, corn, and acorns. There are several other varieties of the *Arctomys*, such as the Prairie Marmot (*Arctomys ludovicianus*), and the Woodchuck, (*Arctomys Monax*), the latter is found in the Atlantic States.

It does not inhabit the very cold places of America, but rather the central and southern parts of the United States, and perhaps places further to the south; for Catesby styles it "the Bahama rabbit." In the United States it is called the ground hog, and various other local names, none of which are very applicable. Its color is rusty brown, rather darker on the flanks than on the middle of the back; a portion round the muzzle is bluish gray, and the tail is black.

Among the animals of the squirrel kind enumerated



WOODCHUCK.

by Mr. Farnham, are the Gray Squirrel, (*Sciurus Cinereus*), the Great-tailed Squirrel (*Sciurus macrourus*), the Flying Squirrel, the Striped Squirrel, and the Black Squirrel (*Sciurus niger*.) The last is a beautiful species sometimes found in the Atlantic States.

Its face is described as being in general black, but with some white markings very differently placed in different individuals. In some the nose is white, in others the feet; in others, again, the tip of the tail; yet, again, there is a white collar round the neck; and these markings may all appear in the same individual, or any number of them may appear in any of the combinations which they can form. These circum-