

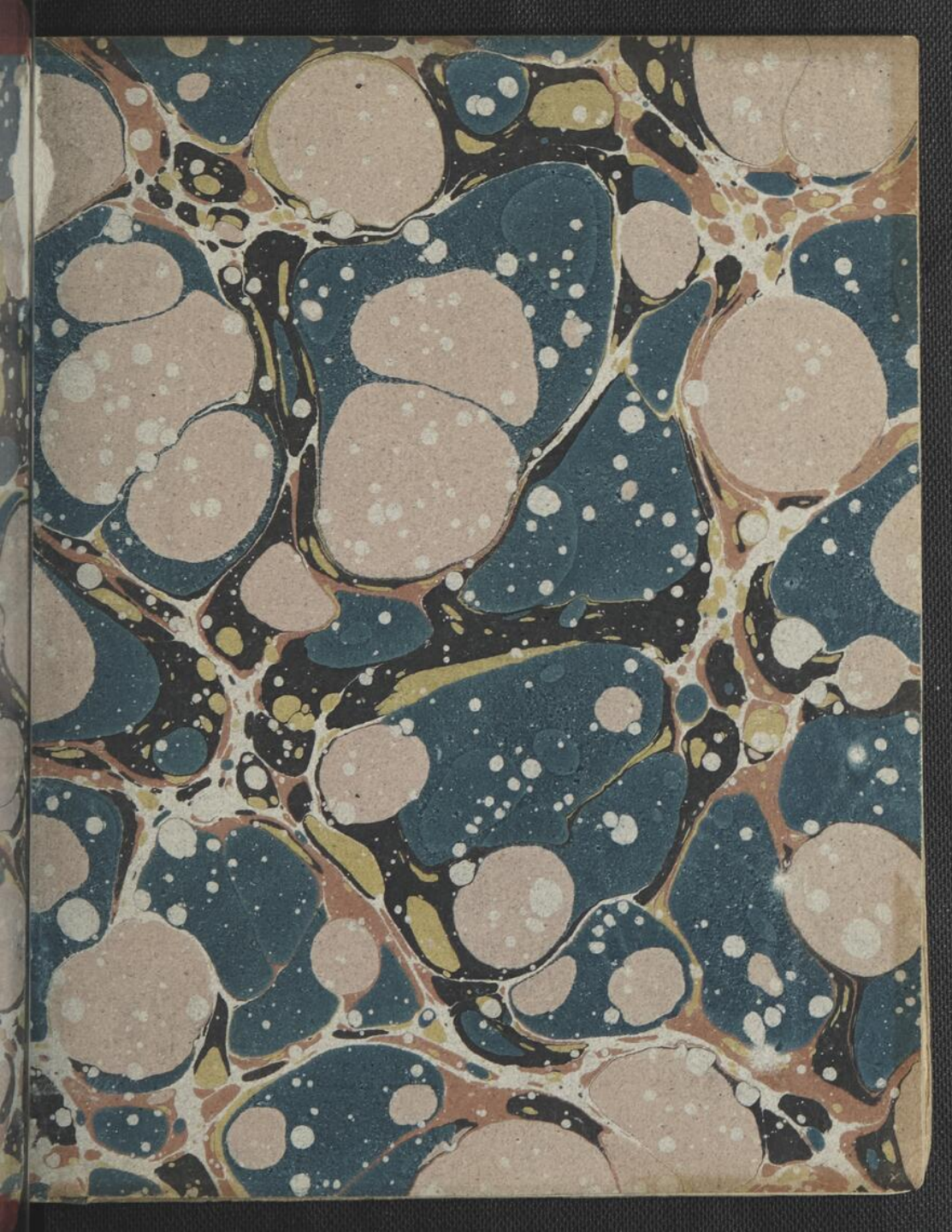
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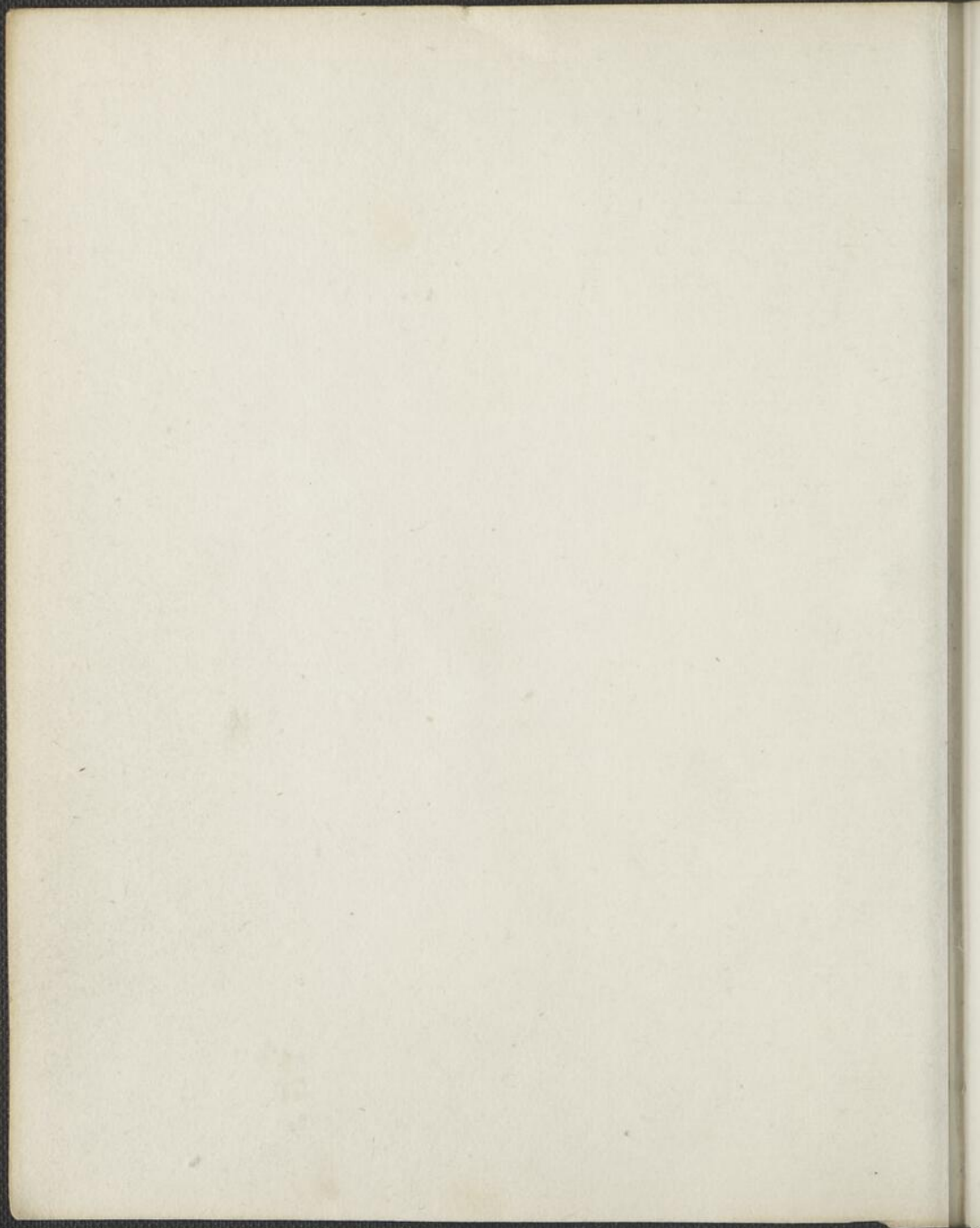


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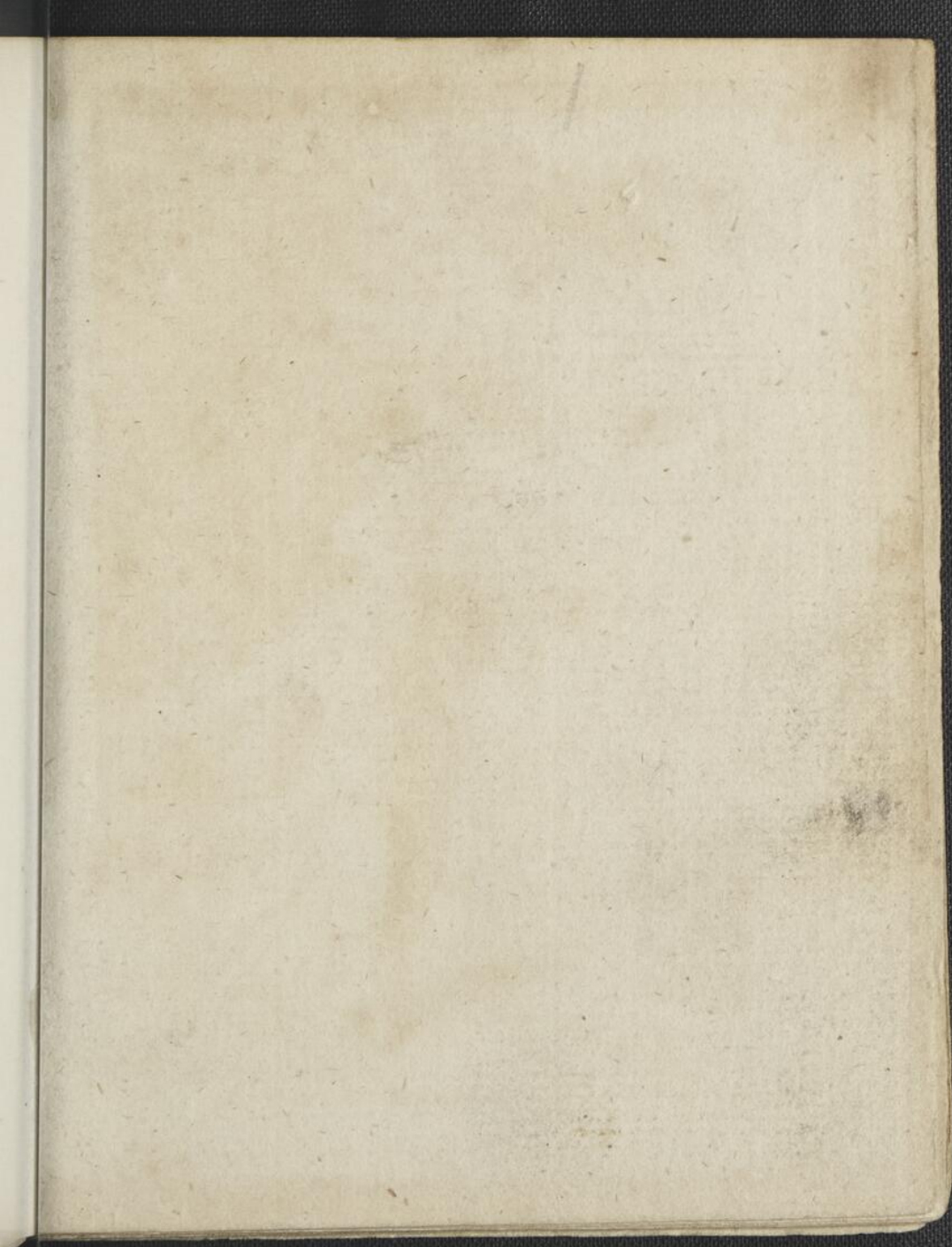
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O' Lord, how Wonderfull are thy Works .

Pub.^d May 21 1790 by G. Riley Ludgate St.

THE
Beauties of the Creation;
OR, A NEW
MORAL SYSTEM
OF
NATURAL HISTORY;

DISPLAYED IN THE

Most singular, curious, and beautiful,

QUADRUPEDS, BIRDS,
INSECTS, TREES, and FLOWERS:

Designed to inspire Youth with Humanity towards the
Brute Creation, and bring them early acquainted with
the wonderful Works of the Divine Creator.

*' Who can this Field of Miracles survey,
' And not with GALEN all in rapture say,
' Behold a GOD! adore him, and obey.'*

Blackmore on the Creation.

VOLUME I.

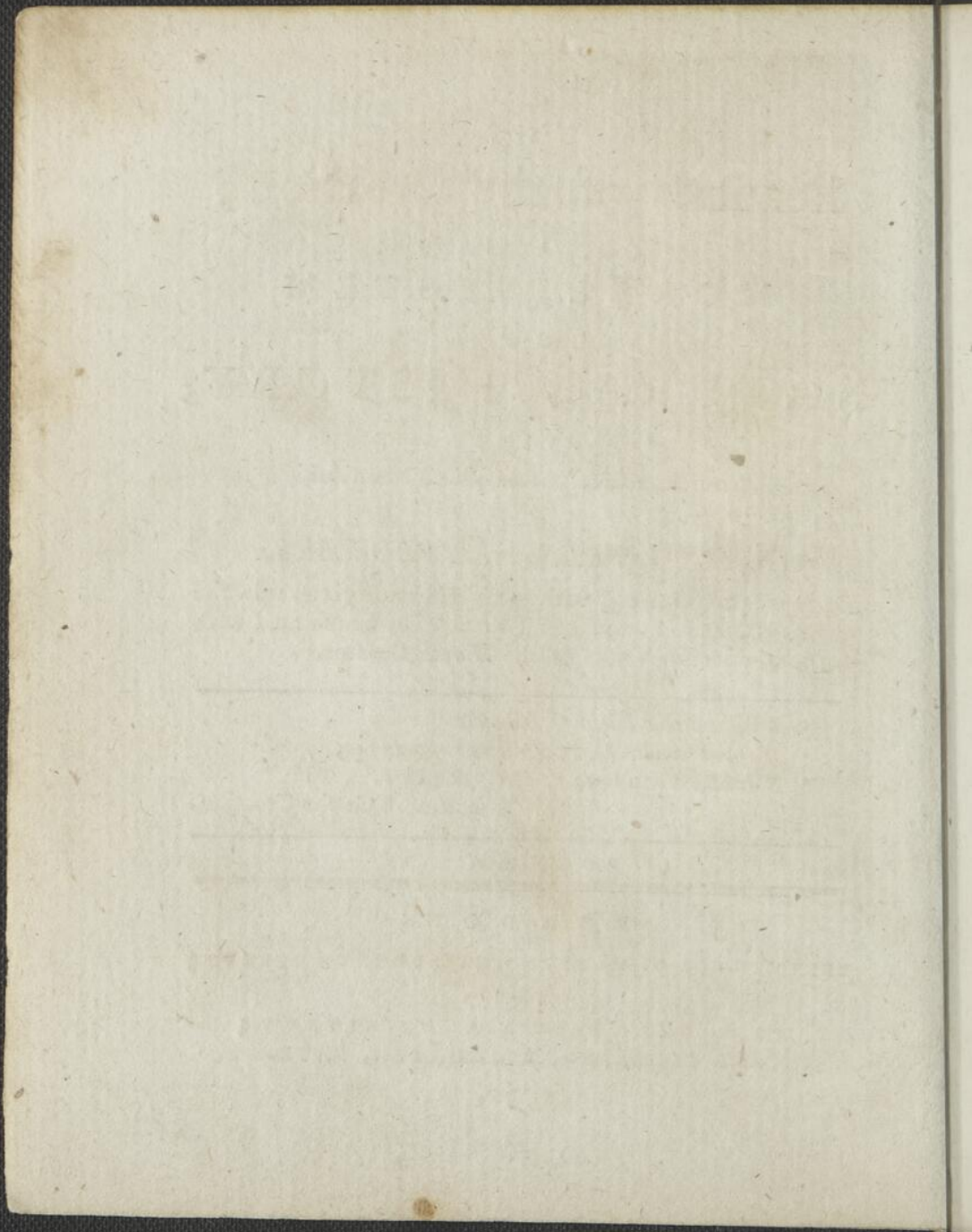
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MESS. CHAMPANTE AND WHITROW;
AND S. HAZARD, BOOKSELLER, BATH.

1790.



TO
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE PRINCESS AMELIA

THIS WORK

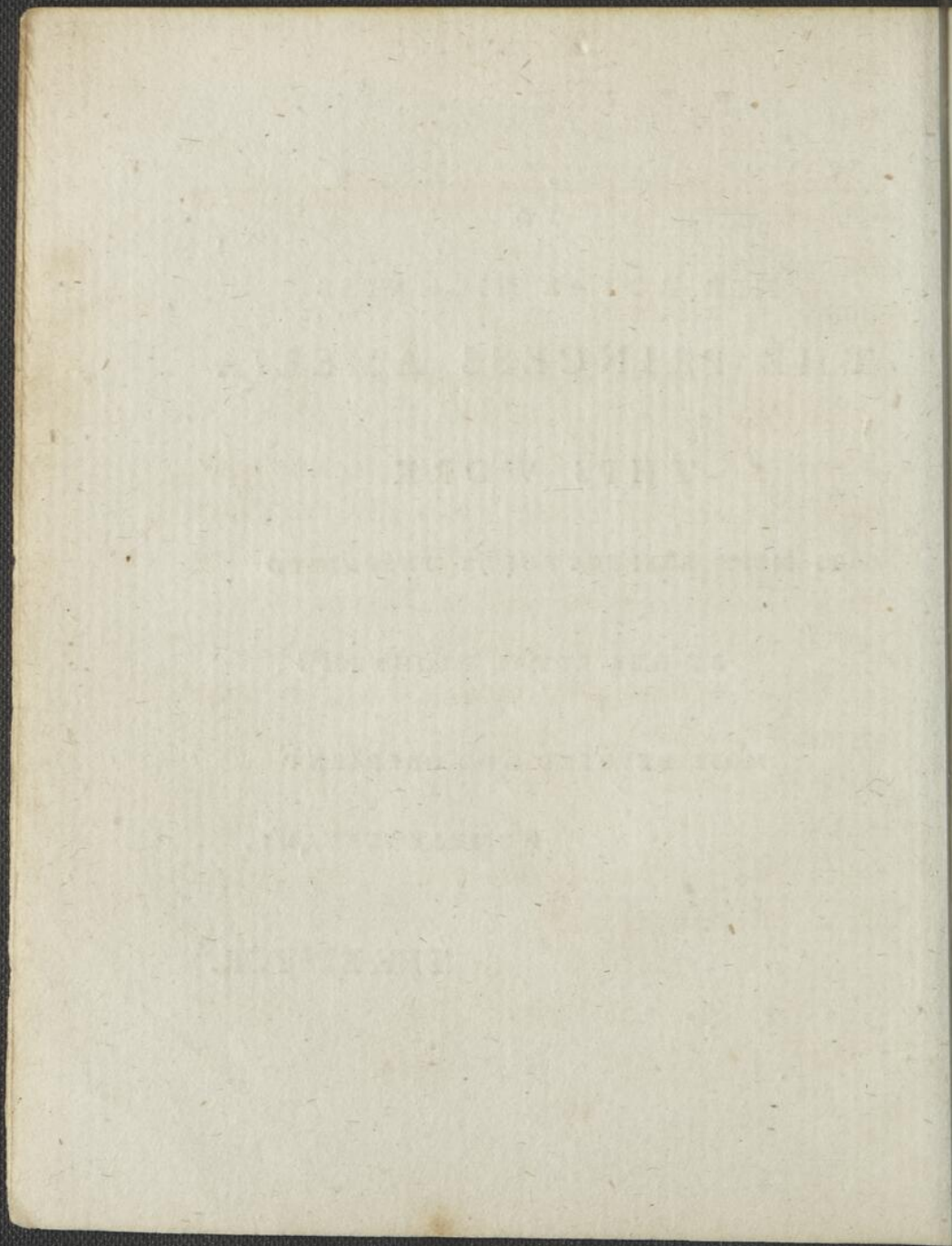
IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED

BY HER ROYAL HIGHNESS'S

MOST DEVOTED AND OBEDIENT

HUMBLE SERVANT,

THE EDITOR.



P R E F A C E.

NATURAL HISTORY, in its general sense, comprehending the whole produce of the Creation, as consisting of Beasts, Birds, Fishes, Insects, Reptiles, Flowers, Plants, Stones, Fossils, and Minerals, it was impossible to include, in two small volumes like the following, even the names of the different articles: we were therefore obliged to make a selection of a part, which we considered the most curious, interesting, and worthy the attention of the pupil studying that science of Nature.

In the progress of the work, those Beasts, Birds, Insects, and Flowers, are particularly described,

that are distinguished by any peculiar characteristics of beauty, utility, curiosity, or medicinal virtue.

It has been our endeavour to trace more those grand outlines of sublime wonders that elevate the heart to the Creator, than to descend to the minute investigation of a mere speculatist; for, in the work of the ingenious Blackmore,

“ Who can this field of miracles survey,
 “ And not with GALEN* all in rapture say,
 “ Behold a God! adore him, and obey!”

This engaging subject, much as it is neglected, is, of all others, the most necessary to
 finish

* GALEN was professedly an atheist, until he providentially saw a human skeleton, which, considering attentively, with regard to the wisdom displayed in its structure, was the immediate cause of his not only believing in a God, but becoming a most zealous professor of religion.

finish a polite education. It softens and humanizes the mind imperceptibly; for it leads us to this sublime truth—That nothing is created in vain; and teaches us, that a knowledge of God is the most noble, and should therefore be the ultimate object of all our pursuits. This divine science is therefore the only means by which we can know ourselves, and be grateful for those beings that are created for our use, support, and protection.

We have been more anxious to vindicate the dignity of Nature, than to debase it with puerile researches. Whenever any grand deviation was observable in one beast or bird from another, we made free to search for the final cause, independent of former opinions, however sanctioned by authority, when they happened not to be congenial with our own sentiments. To trace the
final

final causes, or the reasons of the difference in the various classes of birds and beasts, is the first and most essential object to pursue in the study of Nature. To look for differences, as some have done, only to gratify a prepossession for novelty, without improving the mind or amending the heart, is to turn Natural History into a raree-show, instead of adopting it as a science.

To avoid that tedious detail of description which tires by its sameness, and confuses by its intricacy, we have specified only those characteristics that were essential to notice, in order to be able to distinguish one animal from another: but, in this, the peculiar beauties are more particularly noticed than any deviation of colour or form, that had no quality to recommend it to our attention.

With

P R E F A C E. ix

With respect to the arrangement, we have endeavoured to present it as systematically to our readers, as an abridgement could possibly admit. That the student might know of what species every bird and beast was, which this volume contains, they are described in the order of their respective classes. Whenever there were more of a species than the limits of the work would admit of being described, they are specified by name, according to the most accurate naturalists,

It being the desire of the Proprietor of this work to render every part of it as complete as in his power, he has taken all possible care to obtain the most correct drawings of the different Beasts, Birds, Insects, and Flowers, contained in these volumes; for he conceived that nothing can tend so much to impress any description on
the

the mind, as the addition of a perfect representation of the original: impressed with this opinion, he hopes his endeavours to aid the undertaking with all that could render it instructive and interesting, will be received as a small token of that respect he has for the public patronage he now ventures to solicit.

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NATURAL HISTORY.

QUADRUPEDS.

THEIR GENERAL NATURE.

INTRODUCTION.

QUADRUPEDS, after MAN, in Natural History, require the next attention, and for the following reasons. Being of similar structure with ourselves, having instincts and properties superior to all other parts of Animated

VOL. I.

B

Nature,

Nature, affording great assistance to Man, and sometimes exercising the greatest hostilities, must render them the most interesting part of the Creation, and claim the first attention of the Naturalist.

SIMILITUDE TO MAN.---Like us, they are elevated above the Birds, by their young being produced alive; above the class of Fishes, by breathing through the lungs; above Insects, by blood circulating through their veins; and mostly, above all parts of the Creation, by being partly or entirely covered with hair. Since Quadrupeds so nearly approach us in animal perfection, how little reason have we to be vain of our corporeal qualities!

FIGURE.---The heads of Quadrupeds are generally adapted to their mode of living. In some, it is sharp, to enable them to turn up the earth, where they find their food deposited; in others, it is long, in order to afford room for the olfactory nerves; in many, it is short and thick, to strengthen the jaw, and qualify it for combat. Their legs and feet are entirely formed to the nature and exigencies of the animal. When the
body

body is heavy, the legs are thick and strong; when it is light, they are active and slender. Those that feed on fish, are made for swimming, by having webbed feet; those that prey upon animals, are provided with claws, which they can draw and sheath at pleasure; but the more peaceable and domestic animals are generally furnished with hoofs, which, being more necessary for defence than attack, enable them to traverse the immense tracts which they are destined to pass over, either to serve man, search for food, or avoid hostility.

DISPOSITION FOR PREY.---Beasts of Prey seldom devour each other. Nothing but extreme hunger can induce them to commit this outrage against Nature; and, when they are obliged to seek such a subsistence, the weakest affords to the strongest but a disagreeable repast. In such cases, the Deer or Goat is what they particularly seek after, which they either take by pursuit or surprise.

NATURAL SAGACITY.---In countries uninhabited by Man, some animals have been found in a kind of

civil society, where they seemed united in mutual friendship and benevolence: but no sooner does Man intrude upon their haunts, than their bond of society is dissolved, and every animal seeks safety in solitude.

CLOTHING OF ANIMALS.---In the colder climates, they are covered with a fur, which preserves them from the inclemencies of the weather; in the more temperate, they have short, and in the warmer climates, they have scarcely any hair upon their bodies. Thus we perceive that they are provided with clothing, according to the nature of their situation.

FEROACITY.---Where men are the most barbarous, animals are the most ferocious. Those produced in climates of extreme heat, possess a nature so savage, that they are scarcely ever tamed.

FOOD.---The place, as well as the nature of their food, is adapted to the size and species of the animal. Those feeding in vallies are generally larger than those that seek their food on mountaints. In warm climates,
their

their plenteous and nutritive food renders them remarkable for bulk. Milk is their first aliment.

PRODUCE.---Beasts that are large, uselefs, and formidable, produce but few at a time, while those that are small, serviceable, and inoffensive, are more prolific. This seems to be adapted with the most admirable proportion; for, were the smaller and weaker to have less offspring, their race might be destroyed, by being so frequently made the prey of stronger animals.

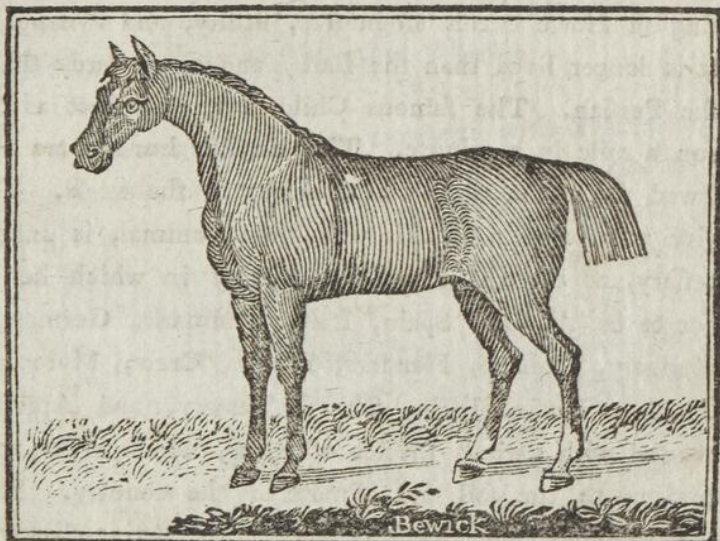
COURAGE.---In defence of their young, no danger or terror can drive animals from their protection. Such as have force, and subsist by rapine, are most formidable in their ferocious courage.

GENERATION.---Each species of Quadrupeds bring forth their young at the time when Nature most plenteously affords them their respective nutriment. Those animals which hoard up provisions for the winter, produce their young in January, by which time they are enabled to collect sufficient subsistence for their offspring.

Quadrupeds which are called *oviparous*, from being hatched from eggs, such as the Crocodile, Turtle, &c. are the most prolific, being no sooner freed from the shell than they attain their utmost state of animal perfection.

EVERY species of animal has its peculiar cry, by which they distinguish each other, and communicate the general expressions of their passions, as fear, joy, desire, &c. Thus has the all-wise, bountiful, and divine Creator, in his infinite wisdom, formed a race of animals for the use of mankind, and granted us dominion over them, which should never be exercised but with the greatest humanity.





T H E H O R S E .

OF all Quadrupeds, the Horse is the most generous, servicable, and beautiful. There is none to which man is more indebted. Wild horses herd together in assemblies of five or six hundred, and depute one as a sentinel to guard the rest while sleeping. Arabia is the

most famous for this animal in its wild state. But the English Horse excels all in size, utility, and swiftness. It is longer lived than the Barb, and more hardy than the Persian. The famous Childers was so fleet as to run a mile in a minute. The English hunters are allowed to be the most useful horses in the world. To give a description of this well-known animal, is unnecessary, as there is scarcely a country in which he is not to be found. Spain, Italy, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Holland, Flanders, France, Crete, Morocco, Turkey, Persia, India, China, Tartary, and Arabia, abound with various species of them, which differ according to the soil and climate of the country. But the general received opinion is, that the native clime of this noble animal is Arabia, to which all the countries above mentioned are indebted for the different breeds of Horses they possess.

ITS disposition to war caused it to be consecrated to **MARS**, the God of Battle.

OF their hides are made collars, and all kinds of harness; their manes and tails are used in perukes, lines for angling, covering for chair seats, cords, floor-cloths, and a variety of other articles.

ALTHOUGH they are endowed with vast strength, and great powers, yet they seldom exert either to the prejudice of their masters; on the contrary, they will cheerfully encounter the greatest fatigues for their benefit. They fear and love the human race, and are of a very benevolent disposition. And yet, notwithstanding all the good qualities of this noble and generous animal, when he is so enfeebled by age, and worn down by the severe drudgery of his lordly master, as to be incapable of contributing any longer to his pleasure, his ambition, or his avarice, he is (as if ingratitude was peculiar to the human species) sold for scarcely the worth of his bridle. In this state of lamentable existence, he is consigned to the cruel treatment of some inhuman wretch, who chastises him for that weakness incident to his old age, or which he has acquired in the servitude of his former master, and thus tortures

the remnant of his life, which should, were it only for past services, be cherished with the most tender care and attention.

SUCH is the strength of the English draught-horse, that in London they have been seen to draw three tons weight. In Yorkshire, the pack-horses usually carry a burthen of 420lb. over the highest hills.





THE ASS.

THIS animal resembles the Horse very nearly in form, but, being of a distinct species, in a state of nature it is entirely different. It is found wild in the deserts of Lydia and Numidia, where it is caught with traps. Of their skins, shagreen leather, and other valuable articles

ticles are manufactured. The plantain is their favourite vegetable. Their scent is so acute, that they are capable of smelling their driver or owner at a great distance, and will even distinguish him in a crowd. In proportion to his size, he is stronger than the Horse, and supported with much less care and sustenance. In some countries they are so large, that in Spain a Jack-ass is frequently seen fifteen hands high. Of all animals covered with hair, the Ass is the least subject to vermin. His period of existence is from twenty to twenty-five years; and, although he can endure much more fatigue and hardship than a Horse, he has much less sleep. It is related of this animal, that he will never stir if he be blinded.

THE Ass was originally imported into America by the Spaniards, who now hunt them for their diversion.

IN his natural state, he is fleet, fierce, and formidable, but when domesticated, he is the most gentle of all animals, and assumes a patience and submission even humbler than his situation. He is very temperate
in

in eating, and contents himself with the refuse of the vegetable creation. As to his drink, he is extremely delicate, for he will slake his thirst at none but the clearest brooks, and those to which he is most accustomed. When young he is sprightly, and tolerably handsome; but age deprives him, as well as all other parts of animated nature, of those qualities; he then becomes slow, stupid, and obstinate. The She-afs goes eleven months with young, and never produces more than one at a time.

THE ingenious author of the *Spéctacle de la Nature* observes, in substance, that though he is not possessed of very shining qualities, yet what he enjoys are very solid; that the want of a noble air hath its compensation in a mild and modest countenance; that his pace is uniform, and, although he is not extraordinary swift, he pursues his journey a long while without intermission; and that he is perfectly well contented with the first thistle that presents itself in his way; in short, that this indefatigable animal, without expence or pride, replenishes our cities and villages with all sorts of commodities.

WITH respect to their general disposition, the same author informs us, "That the Ass resembles those
" people who are naturally heavy and pacific, whose
" understanding and capacity are limited to husbandry
" or commerce, who proceed in the same track with-
" out discomposure, and complete, with a serious and
" positive air, whatever they have once undertaken "

THE medicinal virtues of Asses-milk, in restoring health and vigour to our debilitated constitutions, might alone entitle this harmless and inoffensive animal to a kinder return than it generally experiences from their inhuman and ungrateful masters !





THE ZEBRA.

THIS animal is the most wild and beautiful in nature, and is principally found in the southern parts of Africa. It is said to surpass all others in swiftness, and even stands better and firmer upon its legs than the Horse. There was one in England that would eat bread, meat,

B 8

and

and tobacco. It differs from the wild Afs, with which it has been frequently confounded, in the description given of it by some naturalists. In shape it more resembles the Mule, than the Horse or the Afs: it is less than the former, and longer than the latter: its ears are longer than those of the Horse, and shorter than those of the Afs: it has a large head, a straight back, well-placed legs, and tufted tail. The skin is close and smooth, and the hind quarters are round and well formed. The male is white and brown; the female white and black. The colours are so regularly striped, that they appear to be painted, and resemble so many ribbons laid over its body; so that, at a small distance, the Zebra appears to have been dressed by art, instead of being so admirably adorned by Nature.

MULE.---This animal is bred between a Horse and a She-afs, or a Jack-afs and a Mare. In Spain, where they are used to draw people of the first distinction, they are frequently sold at fifty or sixty guineas each. The common Mule is very healthy, and lives about thirty years.

RUMINATING



RUMINATING ANIMALS

ARE such as are distinguished for chewing the cud, and being the most mild and easily tamed. The Ferocious or the Carnivorous kinds, seek their food in gloomy solitude; but these range together in herds, and the very meanest of them unite in defence of each other. The food of Ruminating Animals being easily procured, they seem more indolent, and less artful than the Carnivorous kinds, or those which feed on flesh.



THE BULL, OX, AND COW.

OF all Ruminating Animals these are first in rank, both with respect to size, beauty, and service. Many of our English peasants have only a Cow, from which they obtain a livelihood. Cows improve the pasture which affords them their nourishment. Their age is calculated

calculated by their horns and teeth. Of all creatures, this animal is most affected by difference of soil, which, being luxuriant, increases their growth to a considerable size, while in more sterile countries they are proportionally diminutive. In Great-Britain, the Ox is the only horned animal that will apply his strength to the service of mankind. The Ox, in particular, will grow to a prodigious size, an extraordinary instance of which is at this time to be seen in London: he was bred at Gedney, in the County of Lincoln, and is allowed by judges to be much the largest and fattest Ox ever seen in England; his beef and tallow alone being computed to weigh 350 stone, or 2800 pounds weight.

THERE is no part of this animal without utility; the blood, fat, marrow, hide, horns, hoofs, milk, cream, whey, urine, liver, gall, spleen, and bones, have each their particular qualities. The hide, when tanned, is manufactured into boots, shoes, and various other accommodations in life: vellum, and goldbeater's-skin are also obtained from these animals: the hair, mixed with lime, is used to cement our buildings: combs, knife handles,

handles, boxes, buttons, drinking vessels, &c. are made of their horns, which are also used as antidotes to poison, the plague, and small-pox: glue is made from the chips of their hoofs, and the parings of the raw hides. Their bones are an excellent substitute for ivory; and their feet afford an oil, so generally known under the name of *neat's-foot-oil*, that it needs no description here. The blood is an excellent manure for fruit-trees, and the chief ingredient of Prussian-blue: the gall, liver, spleen, and urine, are used in medicine. Milk, cheese, cream, and butter, are too common to require particular mention. The flesh is of two sorts, namely, veal and beef, which, being dressed various ways, is calculated to invigorate the weak, support the laborious, and gratify the voluptuous.

THE Urus, or Wild Bull, is generally found in Lithuania, a province of Poland.

THERE are other species of the Cow-kind, such as the Bison, Bonafus, Zebu, Beevehog, Buffalo, and Siberian Cow.

THE



THE BUFFALO.

THE Buffalo, being more clumsy, is less beautiful than the Cow. His skin is also harder, thicker, blacker, and thinner of hair: his flesh is hard, black, and disagreeable, both to the taste and smell: the milk, though abundant, is not so good as that which the Cow affords;

fords; in the warm countries, however, it is used to make cheese and butter. The hide, from its thickness and impenetrability, is dressed, and forms an article called *buff-leather*, after his name.

Two of these animals, yoked together, will draw more than four strong horses. When pursued, they will often swim over the largest rivers with great facility. They are found wild in many parts of Africa and Asia, and are likewise very common in Italy, from whence they were brought into Lombardy, A. D. 591. They grow to twice the size of our largest oxen, and their horns are so large, that a pair is to be seen in the Museum which measure six feet, six inches, and a half in length, weigh forty-two pounds, and hold ten quarts of water in their vacuities. Aristotle, very properly, calls these creatures Wild Oxen.

In the western parts of Florida, on this side the Mississippi, the Buffalo is hunted after the following manner: the hunters range themselves in four lines, forming a very large square; they then set fire to the grass, which is long
and

and dry; the animals draw clofer together, as the fire runs along the lines, of which they are much afraid, and naturally fly from it, until they get quite close together: they then attack them briskly, seldom suffering any to escape. At these hunting-matches they generally kill from a thousand to fifteen hundred of these animals.

THE Buffalo, like other animals that feed on grafs, is inoffensive when undisturbed; but, when wounded, or even fired at, their fury is ungovernable.

IN India, there is a smaller kind of Buffalo, which they make use of to draw their coaches.

IN the northern parts of America there is another animal, larger than the Ox, which has short black horns, a large beard, and a head so covered with hair, that he makes a most formidable appearance.



ANIMALS of the SHEEP and GOAT KIND.

ALTHOUGH this species comprehends many animals of a similar nature, they differ with regard to their bodies, horns, food, and covering.

THE utility and inoffensive nature of these animals, is a proof that they have been long reclaimed from their wild state, and adapted to domestic purposes. They both appear to require protection from man, whom they reward with the greatest favours; they seem, indeed, to court his society. Though the Sheep is most serviceable, the Goat has more attachment and sensibility. In the earliest ages the Goat appears to have been the greater favourite, and still continues so amongst the poor. But the Sheep has long been the principal object of human care and attention; we shall therefore begin with

THE



T H E S H E E P.

THIS animal, in its tame state, is the most harmless and defenceless. When wild, it is said to be of vast swiftness, and only found in great flocks. As soon as they are attacked, they form a ring, into the centre of which the Ewes fall, where they are defended by the
Rams

Rams in the most vigorous manner. The woolly Sheep is only found in Europe, and some of the temperate provinces of Asia. When fat, it is awkward in its motions, easily fatigued, and frequently sinks under the weight of its own corpulence and rich fleeces. There is no part of this admirable animal but what has its particular use.

WHEN two Rams meet, they engage very fiercely. Every Ewe knows its Lamb, and every Lamb the bleating of its Ewe, even amidst thousands. In England, they chiefly feed on downs, in pastures, young springing corn lands, or turnip fields; but the downs have, from long experience, been found to prove by far the most beneficial, on account of the air and dryness of soil, no animal being so subject to the rot as Sheep, if fed on marshy land. The whole flock of Ewes, Wethers, and Lambs, are sheared once a year. Wethers have generally more and better wool than the Ewes. Such is their utility in agriculture, that an hundred Sheep will manure eight acres of ground.

IN Iceland they have a species of this animal, called Many-horned Sheep; they are of a dark brown colour, and, under the outward coat of hair, have a fine, short, soft fur, resembling wool.

IN Spain, the Sheep produce a wool superior to that of any other country. It is of so excellent a quality, that our clothiers and hatters are obliged to purchase it at a very great price, in order to enable them to manufacture some of their estimable articles.

THE great utility of Sheep to this country, may be seen by the following moderate calculation of fleece-wool annually produced by their growth.

ACCORDING to the calculation of Young, in his *Six Months Tour*, there are 466,532 packs of wool manufactured in Great-Britain and Ireland, and 285,000 packs exported unmanufactured. The value of which, estimated at an average of £.7. per pack, amounts to £.5,260,724. The quantity manufactured is supposed to amount to the sum of £.12,434,855, annually, which

is circulated amongst industrious artificans. As the whole value of our manufactures, at the above period of calculation, was said not to exceed £.44,350,529, this article alone may be considered as equal in value to one-third of all the rest of our produce and manufactures. But what evinces still more the value of Sheep to Great-Britain and her dependencies, is, that the wool affords employment to 1,557,834, out of 4,250,434, people, which are supposed to be the number of the laborious part.

BROAD-TAILED Sheep are found in Tartary, Arabia, Persia, Barbary, Syria, and Egypt. Such is the weight of wool on their tails, that Pennant says, some have been known to weigh fifty pounds; to preserve which from wet, dirt, or other injury, they are usually supported by a small board running upon wheels.

OF the Sheep kind, beside these, there are the Strep-sicheros, found in Crete, and other islands of the Archipelago, the Guinea Sheep, and the Moufflon.

THE GOAT.

THIS animal differs most essentially from the Sheep, in being covered with hair instead of wool. Its chief delight is to climb the highest and steepest precipices. They are neither terrified at storms, or incommoded by rain. According to the climate, they will have from two to five kids. Their milk is sweet, nutritive, and medicinal.

THE Goat is found in every part of the world: every climate seems congenial with its nature: for which reason it may justly be called a citizen of the world. Its age seldom exceeds ten or twelve years.

THE Ibex, or Stone-Goat, is said to have horns two yards long, which increase by knots annually.

OF the several distinct species of this animal, there are, the Goat of Angora, Syrian Goat, the small American Goat, Blue Goat, Juda and Siberian Goat, and the Greenland Goat, the latter of which has horns an ell long.

THE



THE CAMELOPARD.

THE Camelopard somewhat resembles the Deer in form, without its symmetry. It has been found eighteen feet high, and ten from the ground to the top of the shoulder. The hinder parts are so low, that, when standing upright, it greatly resembles a Dog sitting. Neither the

the form or the temper of this animal adapts him for hostility or defence; he is therefore timorous and inoffensive, and, notwithstanding its size, will endeavour to avoid, rather than attack an enemy. It is chiefly a native of Ethiopia. The extraordinary length of the fore legs obliges him to divide them when he feeds on vegetables; to avoid which trouble, he subsists mostly on the leaves of trees. It is very rare in Europe; but in earlier times it was known to the Romans, as, among the collection of eastern animals, made on the celebrated Prænestine pavement, by the direction of Scylla, the Camelopard is found. It was likewise exhibited by Julius Cæsar, in the Circean Games.

It was supposed by the Greeks to be generated between a Camel and a Leopard, from whence it derives its name. It is so uncommon, that not above one or two have been seen in Europe for many hundred years. Some have necks fifteen feet long. When they walk, they move both their fore-legs together.



THE ANTELOPE

IS principally distinguished from the Goat and Deer, by having its horns annulated and twisted, bunches of hair on the fore legs, the lower part of the sides being streaked with black, red, or brown, and the inside of the ears having three white streaks.

THE

THE Antelope generally inhabits the warmest climates, those of America excepted. It is equally active and elegant, timid, lively, and vigilant. Like the Hare, its hind legs are longest. It has also cloven feet, and permanent horns, like the sheep, which are smaller in the female than the male.

THE chase of these animals is a favourite diversion in the East. In fleetness they exceed the Greyhound, which frequently causes the sportsman to train a Falcon to overtake them in the chase. Their swiftness has afforded many beautiful similes and allusions in the Eastern poetry. The eye of the Antelope is supposed to be the most beautiful of any animal in the world; blending brilliancy with meekness. Some of this species form themselves into herds of two or three thousand, and generally seek their food in hilly countries. Several systematic writers have erroneously ranked this animal among the Goat kind; for it forms an intermediate genus between that species and the Deer; the texture and permanency of the horns agreeing with the first, while their fleetness and elegance accord with the latter.

THERE is another species of this animal, called the Royal Antelope, or Little Guinea Deer, which is the least and most beautiful of all the cloven-footed race. It is scarcely nine inches high, and the small part of its legs are little thicker than a goose-quill. It is most delicately shaped, resembling that of a Stag in miniature, except that the horns of the male (for the female has none) are hollow and annulated, as in the Gazelle kind. It has broad ears, and two canine teeth in the upper jaw. The colour is as beautiful as the symmetry of this little animal, being of a fine glossy yellow, except the neck and belly, which parts are perfectly white. It is a native of Senegal, and some parts of Africa. It is so active, that it will bound over a wall twelve feet high. It is easily tamed, when it becomes very entertaining and familiar, but of so delicate a constitution, that it can bear none but the hottest climates.

OF Antelopes there are, besides those before described, the following different species:---Common, Blue, Egyptian, Bezoar, Harnessed, African, Indostan, White-footed, Swift, Red, Striped, Chinese, Scythian, Cervine, and Senegal Antelope.

ANIMALS



ANIMALS of the DEER KIND.

ALTHOUGH the Bull and Stag do not resemble each other in shape and form, yet their internal structure is very similar. All the internal difference between them is, that the Deer has no gall-bladder, while the spleen is proportionably larger, and the kidneys differently formed.

THE first animal of this species that seems to claim our attention, is the ELK.



THE ELK, OR FEMALE MOOSE.

THIS animal is a native of both the old and new continent. In Europe, it is called the Elk, and in America, the Moose Deer. It is sometimes taken in the forests of Germany and Russia; but they are found in great numbers in North America. Of the various accounts

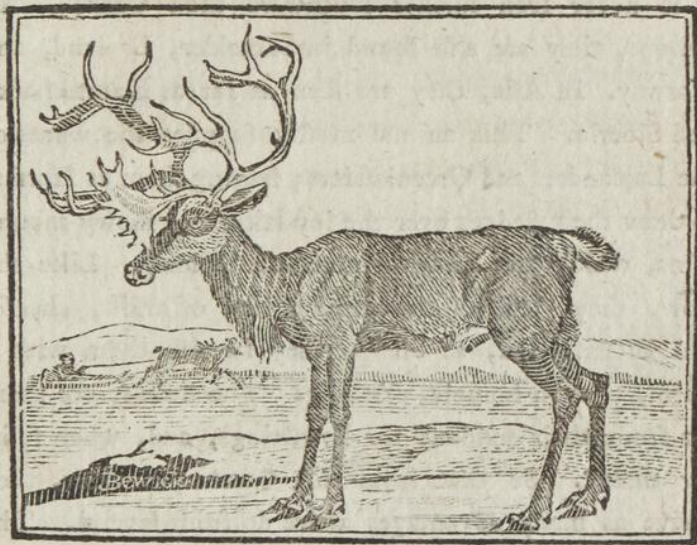
accounts given of this animal, the following is esteemed the most authentic. A female Elk, only twelve months old, which was in the possession of the late *Marquis of Rockingham*, measured to the top of the withers fifteen hands; the length, from nose to tail, was seven feet: it had a short neck, with a thick erect mane, and the body was covered with hoary black hair. It was brought from America, and therefore called a Moose Deer. As it was so young, we may conclude, that, in its wild, and natural state, it grows to an amazing height. It is asserted by some, that in America it grows to the height of twelve feet. This animal is reported to be timorous, gentle, and inoffensive. It swims and runs with incredible swiftness. The Elk delights in cold countries, where they feed on grass in summer, and on the bark of trees in winter. In snowy weather they assemble in herds, and seek the fir-forests, where they remain, while they can find the least subsistence from the bark of the trees. At this time they are mostly hunted by the natives of New England, Nova Scotia, and Canada, in America; by the inhabitants of Lapland, Norway, Sweden, and Russia, in Europe; and by

the inhabitants of the NE parts of Tartary and Siberia, in Asia. The chase of these animals frequently continues two or three days.

THE flesh of the Antelope has an agreeable taste, and is said to be nourishing. The skin is so strong and thick, as to resist a musquet ball. Its horns are used for the same purposes as Harts horns.

THEY were formerly used in Sweden to draw sledges; but criminals frequently availing themselves of their swiftness, to escape the pursuit of justice, the use of them was prohibited under very severe penalties.





THE REIN-DEER.

THIS is the most useful and extraordinary animal of all the Deer kind. It is a native of the northern icy regions, and seems adapted by Nature to serve that part of mankind who live near the pole. It inhabits further northward than any other hoofed animal; for it is

found in Spitzbergen and Greenland. But, in America, it is never seen farther southward than Canada. In Europe, they are also found in Samoidea, Lapland, and Norway. In Asia, they are seen as far as Kamtschatka and Siberia. This animal mostly supplies the wants of the Laplanders and Greenlanders; serving them as Horses, to draw their sledges over the icy lakes and snowy mountains, which they do with incredible rapidity. Like the Cow, they yield all the commodities of milk, cheese, and butter; and, as Sheep, they furnish them with a warm, though homely, clothing. The flesh serves them for food, their tendons for bowstrings, and, when split, for thread. So that from this Quadruped alone, they derive as many advantages as we do from several. The height of a full-grown Rein-deer is about four feet six inches. There cannot be a stronger proof of the dispensation of Divine Providence, than in the food which is provided for this animal, when the snow-clad face of his country seems to threaten him with famine. When not a blade of verdure can be found, on heath, valley, or mountain, trees, bounteously affording a black moss, proves to him a most ample sustenance. In the
preservation

preservation of this animal, the Laplanders themselves are much interested; as, independent of their laborious services, the flesh of the Rein-deer is also their principal food.

WHAT a contrast do these northern countries afford, when compared with those of our more clement and fertile climates! The Laplander is obliged to depend on the Rein-deer for food, clothing, and conveyance, while we have almost the whole range of Nature for our accommodation. Should not this advantage alone excite in us such a sense of superior happiness, as to render us ever grateful to that Providence, whose distinguished bounties we enjoy?

WE have to observe, that the figure of this animal was accurately delineated from a Rein-deer, now in the possession of a gentleman, near Newmarket.





T H E S T A G .

T H E colour of this animal is generally of a reddish brown, with some black in the face, and a black list down the hinder part of the neck, and between the shoulders. The Stag is very delicate in his food; and, during the winter and spring, seldom drinks. They go
about

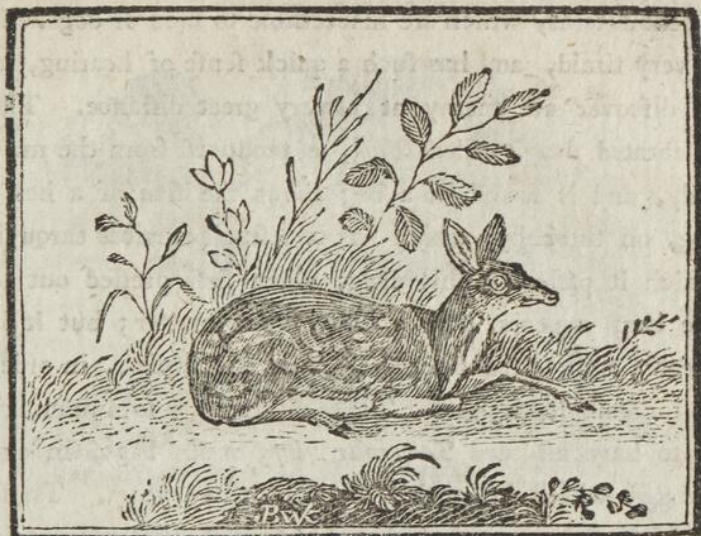
about eight months with young, but seldom produce more than one. They breed in May, when they carefully conceal their young in the most secret thickets. This precaution is wisely dictated to them, from their being exposed to so many formidable enemies, such as the Wolf, Dog, Eagle, Falcon, Osprey, and all animals of the Cat kind. But the Stag himself is the greatest enemy to the young of his species; insomuch, that the Hind, which is the female of the Stag, accompanies the Faun during the summer, to preserve it from his depredations. Amongst all the enemies of this creature, Man seems to be the greatest; for in every age, and every country, the human species have taken delight in the chase of it. Those who first hunted it from necessity, continued it afterwards both for health and amusement. Originally, the beasts of chase were the sole possessors of this island; they knew no other constraint than the limits of the ocean, nor acknowledged any particular master. But, when the Saxons established the Heptarchy, they were reserved by each Sovereign for his own particular diversion. In those uncivilized ages, hunting and war were the only employments of the

Great; for their active and uncultivated minds felt no pleasure but in rapine or violence.

THE other species of this kind are, the Fullo, Virginian, Porcine, Roebuck, Mexican, and Grey Deer.

STAGS are still found wild in the Highlands of Scotland, but their size is smaller than those of England. They are likewise to be seen on the Moors bordering on Cornwall and Devonshire; and on the Mountains of Kerry, in Ireland, where they greatly embellish the picturesque, romantic, and magnificent scenery, of the Lake of Killarney.





THE FEMALE TIBET.

THIS creature, which is the female of the Musk, gives name to the kingdom of Tibet, a province in China, where it is found, between the latitude of 45 and 60 degrees. These animals naturally inhabit the mountains that are covered with pines, delight in solitude, and,

and avoid mankind: when pursued, they ascend the highest mountains, which are inaccessible to men or dogs. It is very timid, and has such a quick sense of hearing, as to discover an enemy at a very great distance. The celebrated drug, called *Musk*, is produced from the male only, and is found in a bag about the size of a hen's egg, on the belly, which has two small crevices through which it passes. This drug, when first pressed out of the bag, appears like a brown fat matter; but it is greatly adulterated by the hunters and dealers, in order to increase its weight. These animals are so numerous, as to have afforded *Tavernier* 7673 musk bags, in one journey which he made, of only three years. Those of Muscovy are reckoned good, though those found in the kingdom of Tibet are most valuable. The Russians and Tartars eat the flesh of the male, notwithstanding its strong taste. Musk was formerly in great esteem as a perfume; but having been since found of great utility in medicine, it is seldom used for any thing else. This animal is likewise found in the Brazils, in India, and in Guinea.



THE DROMEDARY.

THIS is the most temperate of all animals; but this disposition arises more from necessity, than from choice or natural moderation. He is so admirably formed to cross the parched deserts, that he will travel eight days without being thirsty. His hard hoofs are particularly

C 8

adapted

adapted to travel on the sands of his native wilds. They are the most useful beasts of burthen in Arabia, none other being able to bear their loads, or endure the want of drink so long; to enable them to do which, Nature has provided them with a fifth stomach, which serves as a reservoir, from whence they draw sufficient to quench their thirst. Camels have been sometimes killed, in hopes of finding water to slake the parched thirst of the traveller. They are chiefly employed in assisting the caravans; and as the deserts they cross afford little more than the coarsest weeds, they prefer them to the choicest pasture. He lives forty or fifty years; is about six feet and a half high, and has callosities on each knee, which greatly ease him when he kneels down to deposit, or take up his load. A large Camel will carry 12 cwt.

THE difference between a Camel and a Dromedary is, that the former has two bunches on his back, the latter only one. There are also the Arabian Camel, and the Llama Camel of America. Camel-hair is imported in great quantities for the use of painting.



ANIMALS of the HOG-KIND.

IN this kind, animals seem to unite in those differences which separate others. They resemble the Horse kind in their long heads, single stomachs, and the number of their teeth, which are forty-four. Their cloven feet, and the position of the intestines, are similar to those of the Cow kind. And, in their carnivorous appetite, numerous progeny, and chewing the cud, they resemble the claw-footed kind.



T H E H O G.

THE Hog, in his nature, blends the rapacious with the peaceful kind; for, though he is furnished with arms sufficient to terrify most, as well as to put the bravest at defiance, he is inoffensive to all.

H E

He is the most impure of all Quadrupeds; has a most insatiate appetite, and is of a very sluggish disposition. He may be compared to a miser, who, while living is uselefs and rapacious, but when dead is considered a public benefit, by diffusing those riches he had not spirit to enjoy while living. The brutality of the Hog is such, that they frequently devour their own offspring; and, contrary to all other domesticated animals, when impelled by hunger, they will even devour infants. It is said to be more perfect in the internal formation than any other domestic animal. The thickness of his hide, and the coarseness of his hair, renders him insensible to blows. He is naturally stupid, drowsy, and inactive; and, if undisturbed, will spend half his time in sleep, from which state he never rouses himself but to gratify his voracious appetite, which, if sufficiently sated with food, would cause his body to become too heavy for his legs to support; it would still, however, continue feeding, either kneeling or lying. A very remarkable instance of the voracious disposition of this animal, is at this time to be seen in London, in a Warwickshire Hog, which, though but little more than three
years

years old, measures nine feet ten inches in length, five feet ten inches round the neck, and eight feet five inches in girth. His weight is ten hundred, two quarters, and twenty-four pounds. His chief food is barley-meal and potatoes, which he eats while laying on his side; but what is more remarkable of this surprising animal is, that he never drinks.

THE Hog is restless at every change of weather, and greatly agitated when the wind is high. He is subject to all the diseases incident to intemperance. When permitted to extend his thread of life, he will live to eighteen or twenty years. The Sow goes four months, and will often produce fifteen young at a litter.

THE TAJACU, PECARY, or MUSK-HOG, of South America, has no tail; the navel is on its back; when wounded, it will call its tribe, which are never satisfied but in the destruction of their antagonists or themselves.

OF the Hog, there are, the Guinea, Chinese, Ethiopian, Indian, Hog-Rabbit, and Hog-Cow.



THE RHINOCEROS.

THIS extraordinary creature inhabits Bengal, Siam, Cochin-China, Quangfi, the islands of Java and Sumatra, Congo, Angola, Ethiopia, and the country as low as the Cape. It is next to the Elephant in size and strength, and has a horn growing on his nose two feet long.

long. It being our first pride to dedicate to Truth, we purposely omit many fabulous accounts given of this animal. Unless offended, they are very harmless. The flesh is said to be wholesome. From its having only one horn, though some have been found in Africa with two, this beast must certainly be the Unicorn of Holy Writ, and the ancients. The skin is impenetrable to a musquet ball. Being slow and unwieldy in its motions, Nature has provided him with a horn, so strong, solid, and pointed, as to enable him to inflict the most deadly wounds. Many medicinal virtues are also ascribed to this horn, of which cups are frequently made.

THIS animal is so remarkable in form, that, words not being capable of accurately describing it, we have been particularly careful to have the most correct likeness that could be possibly obtained.

HIS scent is most exquisite. He runs in a direct line, his sight not permitting him to see any thing placed in an oblique direction. Tobacco is his favourite food.

The

The horn was formerly used by Princes, as a cup, in order to detect what poison might be presented to them; for, when any deadly drug is poured on it, it is asserted that it will immediately break into pieces. There is, also, another power attributed to this horn, which is, that wine, poured into cups made of it, will rise, boil, and ferment.

THIS animal was known to the Romans in the most early ages, and was among those of the Prænestine pavement. Aristotle, who asserts it to have but one horn, calls it the Oxyx, and the Indian Afs. Augustus introduced a Rhinoceros in an exhibition, which he made on account of his victory over Cleopatra. See Mythology and Roman History.



THE



THE HIPPOPOTAME, OR SEA-HORSE,

THE Hippopotame is as large and as formidable as the Rhinoceros. The male has been found seventeen feet in length, fifteen feet in circumference, and seven feet in height; the legs are three feet long, and the head nearly four. Haffelquist says, the hide alone is a load
for

for a Camel. Its jaws extend about two feet, with four cutting-teeth in each, which are twelve inches in length. The teeth of the Sea-horse are in great estimation among miniature painters, on account of their never losing their primitive whiteness; a quality which the tooth of an Elephant does not possess. The skin is so thick as to resist the edge of a sword or sabre. Contrary to all other amphibious animals, its feet are not webbed. In figure it is between the Ox and the Hog; and is found near lakes and rivers, from the Niger, to the Cape of Good Hope, in Africa.

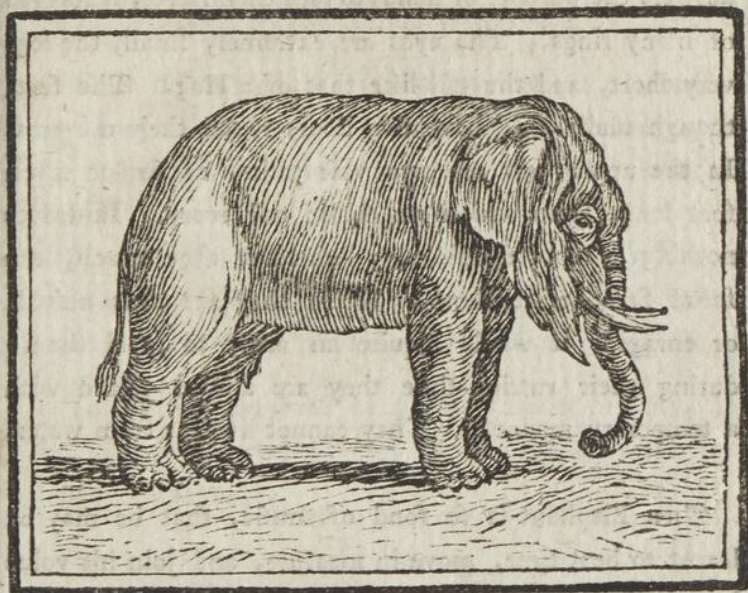
THIS animal pursues its prey with great rapidity in the water, under which it will remain thirty or forty minutes. They do great injury to the African plantations. Dampier says they are so strong, that he has seen one overturn a boat with six men in it; notwithstanding which, they are inoffensive to all except their natural prey. A convincing proof that Providence has formed the strongest animals to be most harmless! They never leave the mouth of the fresh-water rivers. The female brings forth her young, which is a single offspring,

offspring, on land. They are taken in pit-falls, and have been often tamed. Their flesh, which is as delicate as veal, is sold, like other meat, in the public market.

THIS animal is the Behemoth of Job. It was known to the Romans, and introduced by Augustus among other foreign animals that graced his triumph over Cleopatra.

IT was worshipped by the Egyptians, at the city of Papremis, as a superstitious caution of avoiding any affront to this animal, which they feared might be the case, if they refused him that deification with which they had honoured so many other savage beasts.





THE ELEPHANT.

THE Elephant is reckoned the largest of all land animals, and, next to Man, the most sagacious. They grow from seven to fifteen feet in height; and, notwithstanding their unwieldy bulk, they will swim. The trunk with which Nature has provided them, and which answers

answers the purpose of hands to feed themselves, is formed of many rings. The eyes are extremely small, the legs very short, and the tail like that of a Hog. The feet, though undivided, have five hoofs round their margins. In the upper jaw are two vast tusks, of six or seven feet long, from which we obtain our ivory. In droves nothing is more formidable; wherever they march, the forest falls before them. When they are thus united, or enraged, it would require an army to repel them; during their rutting-time they are always seized with a temporary madness. They cannot live far from water.

THE Elephant is so fond of music, that he may be learnt to beat time, move in measure, and join his voice in concert with the instruments. In Africa it still retains its natural liberty. No animal, when tamed, is more courteous, obedient, and affectionate. It kneels to receive its rider. They will draw carriages and shipping; and frequently carry cannon, and small towers with soldiers in them, to battle, with great courage and perseverance. They sleep standing. Many have been known to live from 120 to 130 years. The Africans,
who

who take them in pit-falls, very often eat their flesh. A slight wound behind the ear proves fatal to them.

THE following is a remarkable instance of its sense, and love of glory: an Elephant, being directed to force a large vessel into the water, was found too weak; on which the master, sarcastically, desired the keeper to take away the lazy beast, and bring another. The poor animal was so affected at the reflection, that he instantly repeated his efforts, fractured his skull, and expired.

LET not Man boast of *his* attachment to glory, since he is thus equalled by the Brute Creation in the most eminent examples.





ANIMALS of the MONKEY KIND.

THE Ape, or Monkey Class, is distinguished from all others by their similitude to Man. They have hands instead of paws; their eye-lids, lips, and breasts, greatly resemble those of the human race; while their internal structure bears the like conformation. We recommend, therefore, to those who make their persons the principal object of attention, to consider their affinity to this part of the Brute Creation, to induce them to cultivate those mental qualifications, which can alone distinguish them from the inferior classes of beings!

IN the well-known story of *Peter the Wild Boy*, we see the importance of the cultivation of our infant faculties. This boy was found by George I. in the woods of Germany, and brought to England in the year 1700, when he

was

was supposed to be about ten or twelve years old; at which time his agility in climbing trees is said to have been surprising. He must have been lost, or left in the woods in his early childhood, perhaps soon after able to walk; however it might have happened, his infant impressions of society were lost, and his subsequent sentiments, being dictated by his savage situation, having no opportunity of learning and practising speech, he continued till his death a mere *Ourang-Outang*. He could break or cleave wood, draw water, or thresh in a barn; but his rude, narrow mind could never be enlarged, principally owing to his not being able to acquire the power of speech. This is sufficient to show what *we* should be, were we left to ourselves, and what we owe to the experience of former ages, for instilling into us a proper EDUCATION, as our faculties expand to maturity.

THE Monkey tribe are lively, active, full of chatter, frolic, and grimace. Indeed their actions, as well as their form, seem designed by Nature to burlesque the ignorant part of our species. In general they are fierce, untameable, dirty, and dishonest. Their greatest pleasure is to
be

be perpetually stealing, and hiding their thefts. Woods and trees are their chief habitations, where they feed on fruits, leaves, and insects. Such is their activity, that they will leap from tree to tree, even when loaded with young. Being a sociable animal, they go in companies or tribes, for the different species never mix with each other. Serpents will pursue them to the tops of trees, where they frequently devour them whole.

ALTHOUGH they are not carnivorous, they will, to gratify their propensity to mischief, rob birds-nests, both of their eggs and young. In countries where Apes abound, the feathered tribe display great sagacity in building their nests as far as possible beyond their reach.

As these creatures differ too much in their species, for a general description to afford an adequate idea of their nature, we shall particularly notice the following.

OURANG-



OURANG OUTANG, or *Wild Man of the Woods.*

THIS name is given to various animals that walk upright, but which have different proportions, and come from different countries. The Ourang Outang greatly resembles in countenance a toothless old woman, and approaches nearer to the human race than any other animal

mal whatever. This creature, indeed, corresponds so nearly in form to Man, that many have expected to find the same correspondence. But the contrary being found, disproves that sceptical assertion, that matter forms the nature of the mind. It proves, likewise, that the most curiously constructed bodies are formed in vain, unless a corresponding soul is infused, to direct and controul its operations.

DR. TYSON gives the following description of one of these animals brought from Angola, in Africa.

“ THE body was covered with black hair, which
“ greatly resembles human hair; and it was longest in
“ the same parts, as in the human species. The face
“ was like the human face, except the forehead being
“ larger, and the head rounder. The jaws were not
“ so prominent as in Monkeys, but flat, like those of
“ a Man. The ears, teeth, and, in a word, the whole
“ of this creature, at first view, presented a Human
“ figure. And, as he so nearly approached Man in his
“ figure, his disposition was exceedingly fond, more
gentle,

“ gentle, and harmless, than the Monkey race are found
“ in general. Those who were familiar with him in
“ the ship, he would most tenderly embrace, open their
“ bosoms, and clasp his hands about them. And, al-
“ though there were other Monkies on board, he never
“ associated with them; as if he considered them, as
“ indeed they are, classes of beings much inferior to
“ him in the scale of Creation. Being accustomed to
“ clothes, he grew so fond of them as to endeavour to
“ dress and undress himself. Such parts as he could
“ not put on, he took to some of the company on
“ board, to have their assistance. Like any human
“ creature, he would go to bed, place his head on the
“ pillow, and cover himself with the clothes.”

ONE of these animals was shown in London, in 1738, that would reach himself a chair, drink tea, which, if too hot, he would cool in the saucer; he would, likewise, cry like a child, and be exceedingly unhappy in the absence of his keeper.

IT inhabits the interior parts of Africa, the island of Sumatra, Borneo, and Java.

THE Ourang Outang is solitary in its nature, and subsists chiefly on fruit and nuts. The larger sort are so strong, as to be capable of overpowering the strongest Man. And, as Nature has placed them among the fiercest of animals, they are provided with sufficient courage, cunning, and dexterity, to drive away even Elephants from them. They beat them with their fists and pieces of wood, and will even throw stones at those that offend them. They sometimes carry away young negroes, especially the females, whom they have been known to treat with the greatest tenderness. Le Brosse asserts, that he knew a woman of Loango, who had lived three years among them.





THE PIGMY APE.

THIS animal has a flat face, with ears like those of a Man. It is as large as a Cat, and has olive-brown hair. It subsists chiefly on fruit, ants, and other insects. In order to find ants, they assemble in troops, and turn over every stone in search of them. Africa is the coun-

try where they are mostly found. In animal exhibitions, the Pigmy Ape is not uncommon. Their disposition is very gentle and tractable. The hair on their head seems to come over the forehead like the cowl of a monk. Its hands are remarkably similar to those of human nature. Of all the various species, this, being the most harmless, is most sought after by those who are fond of making such creatures the object of their attention and amusement.

THE Long-armed Ape, called, by M. Buffon, the Gibbon, is a most extraordinary animal. It walks erect, has no tail, and has such long arms, that when he stands upright, he can touch the ground with his hands.

THE Tufted Ape, has a head so long, that it measures fourteen inches. It has a long upright tuft of hair on the top of the head, and another under the chin.

THERE are also, the Maggot, or Barbary Ape; and the Simia Porcaria, of which latter there is a drawing in the Museum.



THE BABOON.

THIS animal is about three feet and a half high, has a thick body, strong limbs, and long canine teeth. The tail is thick, crooked, and seven inches long. It has a pouch in each cheek, where it deposits its provisions; which shows that it is adapted to live in countries where

it is liable to meet with a temporary scarcity; Nature never bestowing any particularity on a being, but in conformity with the necessity of rendering it capable of living wherever it is plac'd. Thus arises the great difference in Animated Nature, from the variety of climates, and not, as some have falsely and unphilosophically imagined, to distinguish every part of the Creation from each other.

THE Baboon sometimes walks erect. Instead of nails, the hands and feet are armed with claws, to adapt it for climbing, and render it formidable to those natural enemies it meets with, where it is obliged to seek its subsistence. Forbin relates, that in Siam, when the men are at harvest-work, whole troops of them will attack a village, where the women are obliged to defend themselves with clubs, and other weapons, from their brutal insults. Whatever they undertake, they execute with surprising skill and regularity. When they attack an orchard, they do it with all the skill and precaution of an army in a siege. They have their sentinels, and their lines are most orderly formed. The female produces but one, which she carries in her arms.

BABOONS

BABOONS are not carnivorous ; they feed upon fruits, corn, and roots. Their internal parts have a greater resemblance to those of Quadrupeds than Mankind.

THE Mandril, mentioned by Smith, is a native of the Gold Coast. It grows four or five feet high, and more frequently walks erect than on all fours. When displeas'd, it is said to weep like a child.

THE Wanderer is a small Baboon, remarkable for having a long white head of hair, and a large beard of the same colour.

THE Little Baboon, and the Pigtail Baboon, are all that remain beside of this species.

OF Monkeys, there are an innumerable quantity ; we have only room, therefore, to name them as follows : Dog-faced, Lion-tailed, Hare-lipped, Spelted, Green, White-eyelid, Negro, Chinese, Varied, Dove, Tawny, Winking, Goat, Four-fingered, Weeping, Orange, Horned, Antiqua, Fox-tailed, Great-eared, Silky, and Little Lion.



ANIMALS of the DOG KIND.

THE Dog, next to the Elephant, is the most intelligent and friendly to Man, of all Quadrupeds. It seems beyond the power of ill usage to alienate his affections from Human Nature. His beauty, swiftness, vivacity, courage, fidelity, docility, and watchfulness, render him most endearing to Man. When in his domestic state, his first ambition, and greatest satisfaction, is to please: he is more humble through affection than servility: he waits his orders, and most implicitly obeys them. Friendly without interest, and grateful for the slightest favours, he sooner forgets injuries than benefits; his only aim is to serve, never to displease.

NUMBERS of Dogs are found wild, or rather without masters, in Cougs, Lower Ethiopia, and towards the Cape
of

of Good Hope. They go in great packs, and attack Lions, Tigers, and Elephants, by all of which they are frequently killed. Although there are wild Dogs now in South America, yet this animal was unknown to the new continent, before it was carried there from Europe. This shows, that the Brute Creation, like the Human Species, may degenerate from a state of refined society, to that of a savage nature. In their wild state, they breed in holes, like rabbits; when taken young, they so attach themselves to mankind, as never to desert their masters, or return to their savage companions.

THE Dog is the only animal whose fidelity is unshaken, and almost the only one that knows his name, and answers to the domestic call. No other animal complains aloud for the absence, or loss of his master, or finds so readily his way home, after he has been taken to a distant place.

OF all animals, the Dog is most liable to change in its form; the different breeds are so numerous, that it is impossible for the most minute observer to describe them; food, climate, and education, all tend to cause deviations

in size, hair, shape, and colour. The same Dog becomes a different animal, if taken to a different climate from that in which he was bred. Nothing, therefore, but their internal structure, distinguishes this species from every other. They may be said to be all, originally, from the same stock; but which of the kinds can claim the immediate descent, is not yet determined.

THE different species of this animal, in its domestic state, are, the Shepherd's Dog, Hound, Spaniel, Greyhound, Danish Dog, Mastiff, Bull Dog, Pug Dog, Irish Greyhound, Terrier, Blood-hound, Leymmer, Tumbler, Lap-dog, Small Danish Dog, Harlequin Dog, Cur Dog, Shark, Turkish, and Lion Dogs.





THE M A S T I F F.

THIS very useful and inestimable animal we have chosen, as first worthy our particular notice, it being the largest, and of the most essential service to Man.

THE Mastiff possesses great size and strength; has a large head, with hanging lips, and a noble countenance.

This creature is so formidable, that, Caius says, the Romans reckoned three of them a match for a Bear, and four for a Lion. Great-Britain was so famous for Mastiffs, that the Roman Emperors appointed an officer to superintend their breed, and send them, at a proper age, to Rome, for the combats in the Amphitheatre. In England, they are usually kept to guard yards, houses, and other places.

In order to try the strength of this creature, James I. caused three of them to be loosed on a Lion, which was vanquished by their strength and courage. Two of the Dogs were, indeed, disabled in the combat, but the third obliged the Lion to seek his safety by flight. From the size, strength, and courage, of this noble creature, we may presume, that Nature especially formed him for the guardianship of mankind; and, being the particular growth of this country, we ought to hold ourselves greatly indebted to Providence, for so partial and invaluable a bounty which is bestowed upon us for our accommodation.

The Mastiff possesses great size and strength; has a large head, with hanging lips, and a noble countenance.



THE GREYHOUND.

THIS is the swiftest of all Dogs, and pursues a Hare by the sight, not by smell. Nature, having denied it an acute scent, has recompensed it with extraordinary speed. Such is his staunchness for hunting, that, while he keeps the game in view, he will continue running until he ex-

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pires,

pires, or takes his prey. The head and legs are long, and the body so exceedingly slender, that nothing can be more adapted for fleetness. The Greyhound was formerly esteemed among the first rank of Dogs; which appears by the Forest Laws of King Canute, wherein it is enacted, that no person, under the degree of a gentleman, should presume to keep a Greyhound.

THE various kinds of this animal are, the Spanish Greyhound, which is sleek and small; and the Oriental Greyhound, which is tall and slender, has very pendulous ears, and long hair on the tail.





THE POINTER.

THIS Dog is most excellent in Spain. It is about the size of a Bull-dog, and spotted like a Spaniel. In disposition, it is docile, and capable of being trained for the greatest assistance to the sportsman who delights in shooting. It is astonishing to see to what a degree of obedience these

these animals may be brought. Their sight is equally acute with their scent; from which quickness of sight, they are enabled to perceive, at a distance, the smallest sign from their master. When they scent their game, they fix themselves like statues, in the very attitude in which they happen to be at the moment. If one of their fore feet is not on the ground when they first scent, it remains suspended, lest, by putting it to the ground, the game might be too soon alarmed with the noise. In this position they remain, until the sportsman comes near enough, and is prepared to take his shot; when he gives the word, and the Dog immediately springs the game. Its attitude has often been chosen as a picture for the artist to delineate.

Of the other animals of the Dog kind, there are, the Wolf, Fox, Jackall, *Isatis*, and *Hyæna*.

Of these, we select the *Hyæna* and *Wolf*, as the most singular and remarkable.



THE HYÆNA.

THE Hyæna is nearly as large as a Wolf, which it resembles in the head and body. It is more savage and untameable than any other Quadruped, and is continually in a state of rage and rapacity; unless when feeding, it is always growling. Its glistening eyes, erect bristles on the

the back, and teeth always appearing, render its aspect truly terrific. Its horrible howl resembles a human voice in distress.

THE Hyæna, from its size, is the most terrible and ferocious of all other Quadrupeds. It defends itself against the Lion, is a match for the Panther, and frequently overcomes the Ounce. This obscure and solitary animal chiefly inhabits Asiatic Turkey, Syria, Persia, and Barbary. Caverns of mountains, cliffs of rocks, and subterraneous dens, are its chief lurking places. The mansions of the dead are subject to his violations; for, like the Jackall, the putrid contents are, to him, the most dainty food. It preys upon flocks and herds; but, when these and other animal prey fails, it will eat the roots of plants, and tender roots of palm-trees.

THE superstitious Arabs, when they kill a Hyæna, always bury its head, lest it should be applied to magical purposes, as the neck was formerly by the Thessalian forcerers: but the unenlightened Arab must be excused for this weak opinion, when it is considered, that the
 most

most refined and learned ancients, thought the Hyæna had the power of charming the shepherds, and, as it were, rivetting them to the place where they stood.

ITS voice is a hoarse, disagreeable combination, of growling, crying, and roaring.

THE fabulous relation of Pliny, respecting this creature, is almost too absurd to mention: we, however, relate it, just to show how much he debased the history of Nature with his fanciful impositions. He says, that Hyænas have been known, not only to imitate the human voice, but to call some person by his name, who, coming out, was immediately devoured by the subtle cruelty of this creature.

IN Guinea, Ethiopia, and the Cape, there is another species of this animal, which is called by Pennant, the Spotted Hyæna.



THE WOLF.

THIS animal very much resembles the Dog, both externally and internally, having a long head, pointed nose, sharp erect ears, long bushy tail, long legs, large teeth, and being covered with longish hair. It is of a pale brown colour, tinged with yellow; though in Canada, it is

is found both black and white. The principal feature which distinguishes its visage from that of the Dog is, that its eyes, which are fierce and fiery, slant upwards, in direction with the nose.

THOUGH so near in resemblance to the Dog, his nature is entirely different, possessing all his ill qualities, without preserving any of the good ones. These animals entertain such a natural hatred to each other, that they never meet without fighting or retreating. If the Wolf proves victorious, he devours his prey; but the Dog, more generous, is content with victory.

THEY are naturally cruel and cowardly; and will fly the presence of Man, unless pressed by hunger, when they prowl by night, in vast droves, destroying any persons they meet; and, such is their predilection for human flesh, that, when they have once tasted it, they ever after attack the shepherd in preference to his flock.

THE Wolf, of all beasts, has the most rapacious appetite for animal flesh, which Nature has furnished it
with

with various methods of gratifying; notwithstanding which, it most generally dies of hunger; which is easily accounted for, when we consider its long proscription, together with the reward formerly offered for its head, which obliged it to fly from human habitation, and seek refuge in woods and forests.

WOLVES were so numerous in Yorkshire, in the reign of Athelstan, that it was found necessary to build a retreat at Flixton, to defend passengers from their ferocity. In France, Spain, and Italy, they are still greatly infested with this animal. They are also to be found in Asia, Africa, and America; but not so high as the Arctic Circle.

THE female goes about fourteen weeks with young, and brings from five to nine at a litter.



ANIMALS of the CAT KIND.

THIS Class is particularly distinguished by their sharp claws, which they can extend or conceal, at pleasure. They lead a solitary, ravenous life; for most of them, not only seek their food alone, but, excepting certain seasons, are enemies to each other. The Dog, Wolf, and Bear, will sometimes live on vegetables; but the Lion, Tiger, Leopard, and all of the Cat kind, feed only upon flesh.

THESE animals are, in general, fierce, cruel, subtle, and rapacious: it is probable, however, that the most ferocious may be rendered domestic. Lions have drawn the chariots of conquerors, and Tigers have tended those herds, which they now destroy. All animals of the Cat kind,

kind, though they differ in size and colour, are allied to each other, in artifice, ferocity, and rapacity. To see one, is to know them all. Human assiduity can effect many changes in other creatures; but, in this kind, all attempts to alter their immutable nature, prove abortive. The Dog, Cow, and Sheep, vary according to their country, but the Lion and Tiger are the same, in whatever clime they are found.

THIS Class of animals is remarkable for having round heads, short noses, and long whiskers on the upper lip; they have also thirty very formidable teeth, which are not, however, so well adapted for chewing their food, as for tearing their prey: this shows, that Nature has formed every creature according to the means they are obliged to adopt to obtain their subsistence. These creatures, being carnivorous, have teeth particularly adapted to the purpose; their claws are likewise sharp, and strong in the gripe, so as to enable them to hold their prey beyond every possibility of escape. Not being capable of running fast, they are formed with a quickness of scent to discern their prey, and feet so soft, that when
they

they walk, they may cause no sound which might, prematurely, alarm the animal they are going to surprize.

ALTHOUGH possessed of all these fierce, and powerful qualities, they are naturally too timid to attack any animal possessed of more strength and courage than themselves. When they meet with an animal of equal force, they always retreat, and decline coming to a contest.





THE L I O N.

WHAT distinguishes this animal's appearance from others, is chiefly his head, neck, chin, and shoulders, being covered with long, shaggy hair, like a mane. It has very strong limbs, and a long tail, with a tuft of hair at the end. The colour is tawny, except on the belly,

belly, where it inclines to white. The length of the largest Lion, from the nose to the tail, is about eight feet. the Lions is less, and has no mane.

CLIMATE little affects this noble animal. He subsists as well under the frigid pole, as beneath the torrid zone; while most other animals are adapted to live only in particular latitudes.

THE Lion abounds chiefly in the torrid zone, where they are the largest, and most tremendous. The burning sun, and arid soil, seem to inflame their nature to the greatest height of savage ferocity. In the colder regions, such as Mount Atlas, they are much inferior, both in size, strength, and spirit. The torrid zone, affording but few rivers or fountains, causes him to live in a perpetual fever, which excites a sort of madness, fatal to every animal he meets. It is happy, therefore, that this ferocious creature, as travellers in general relate, are daily declining in number. But, perhaps, were they to be entirely extirpated, other animals, on which they prey, might grow too numerous for the safety and welfare of
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the inhabitants of those dreadful countries. We had, therefore, better leave the proportioning the number of this animal to Him, who measures all things by the scale of His unerring Wisdom and Providence.

THE eyes of a Lion are always bright and fiery, even in death. The paws, teeth, and tongue, perfectly resemble those of a Cat; and, in their internal parts, there is scarcely any difference.

HIS anger being noble, his courage magnanimous, his disposition grateful, and his conquests universal over all other animals, he is justly called the King of Beasts.

WHEN hungry, he will attack any thing that comes in his way. His teeth are so strong, that he breaks the bones of the strongest animals, which he swallows with the flesh. He requires about fifteen pounds of flesh per day, and seldom touches any putrid body.



THE PANTHER.

THIS beast has been frequently mistaken for the Tiger; which error arose from its being nearly of the same size, possessing the same disposition to cruel, and a general enmity to the animal creation. Its chief difference is in being spotted, and not streaked as the Tiger.

THE

THE Panther is found in Barbary, and all the intermediate countries in Africa, that lie between that and Guinea; and is peculiar to Africa, as the Tiger is to Asia. Although hunger impels it to attack every thing that has life, without distinction, yet it differs from the Tiger, in preferring, at other times, the flesh of animals to that of mankind. Like the Tiger, it seizes its prey by surprise, and will climb trees in pursuit of Monkeys, and other creatures which seek an asylum there. It always retains its fierce, malevolent aspect, and never ceases to growl or murmur.

THIS animal was well known to the ancients, which may be seen from the numbers continually introduced by the Romans in their public shows. Scarus exhibited 150 Panthers in one show; Pompey the Great, 410; and Augustus, 420. Notwithstanding which, they are now swarming in the southern parts of Guinea.

OF the remaining animals of this kind, we shall select the White Bear, and the Opossum.



THE WHITE, OR POLAR BEAR.

THIS creature grows to a great size, and is the undisputed master of Greenland and Spitzbergen. When our mariners land on those regions of ice, these animals come down to view them, uncertain whether to attack or retreat.

When shot at, or wounded, they endeavour to fly; but,

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if they find themselves incapable, their resistance never ends but with their death. They live upon Seals, carcases of Whales, and such human bodies as they can find, or make their prey. Companies of them are so daring, as to attack crews of armed men; and will even board small vessels. From their disposition to resist all invasion, they seem formed by Nature to convince us, that this inhospitable clime was meant only for their possession, and that it was never designed by Providence for the abode of the Human Species. They swim well, and dive with great agility. Battles frequently ensue between them and the Whales; in which the latter, from being attacked in their own element, are generally victorious. If, however, they can capture a young Whale, they are sufficiently repaid for the danger of meeting the parent.

THE affection between the female and their young, is such, that they prefer death to parting. The coldest part of the globe is allotted by Nature for the abode of this creature, as they are not to be found further south than Newfoundland, unless they have been carried involuntarily by floating islands of ice, on which they had too rashly ventured in search of their prey.

THE flesh of this animal is white, and has the taste of mutton. The fat is melted for train-oil; and that which is extracted from the feet, is used medicinally. The liver is so very unwholesome, that it endangered the lives of three sailors who eat some of it when boiled.

DR. GOLDSMITH relates, that when a Greenlander and his wife are paddling out at sea, a White Bear will frequently jump into the boat, and be rowed to shore like any other passenger.





THE OPOSSUM.

WHAT distinguishes this from all other animals, and has long excited the wonder of mankind, is a large pouch in the lower part of the belly of the female, in which the teats are lodged, and where the young are sheltered as soon as they are brought forth; at which time they are
blind,

Blind, naked, small, and imperfect. Nature, therefore, has, very providentially, provided them with this maternal asylum, until they can perfect their being. But when they are grown stronger, they seek shelter here, as chickens under the wing of the hen; here they repose from fatigue, or seek their food when hungry. On these occasions, the dam most readily opens her bag to receive them. The flesh of the old Opossum is like that of a sucking Pig; the Indian women dye its hair, and weave it into girdles. The skin has a very offensive smell: the head, which is like that of the Fox, has fifty teeth; the eyes are black, lively, and placed upright; the ears large, broad, and transparent; the tail is partly covered with scales, and partly with hair, which is supposed to be that part of the young that cannot be concealed in the pouch, and which Nature, therefore, has provided with this armour. The feet resemble hands, having five toes or fingers, with white crooked nails.

THE tail of this animal greatly resembles a Snake; by which it will suspend itself on one tree, and, by swinging its body, throw itself among the branches of another.

another. It destroys poultry, sucking the blood without devouring the flesh ; walks extremely slow, and, when overtaken, will feign itself dead.

IT is a native of Virginia, Louifiana, Mexico, Brazil, and Peru.

THE other, less interesting, animals of the Cat kind, are, the Domestic Cat, Wild Cat, Ounce, Tiger Cat, Lynx, Cougar, Siagush, Angora Cat, Serval, Black Bear, Brown Bear, Wolverine or Glutton, Raccoon, Badger, Marmose, Cayopolin, Phalanga, and Tarsier.





THE INDIAN MUSK,

IS a native of Ceylon, of an olive colour, and in length about seventeen inches. Its throat, breast, and belly, are white, the sides and haunches spotted, and barred tranfversely with white. It has large open ears, and a very short tail.



ANIMALS of the WEASEL KIND.

THIS species is distinguishable from other carnivorous animals, by their long and slender bodies, which enable them to creep into very small apertures after their prey. They are call vermin, from resembling the worm in this particular. The form and disposition of the claws differ from those of the Cat kind, as they cannot either extend or contract them. They vary from the Dog kind, in being clothed with fur rather than hair; and differ both in disposition and appearance. They are cruel, cowardly, and voracious; subsist mostly by theft; and destroy all about them before they begin to feed. They suck the blood of every animal before they eat the flesh.

OF the various individuals of this Species, we shall select the most remarkable, beginning with

THE



T H E C I V E T .

THE Civet, like the rest of the Weasel kind, has a long slender body, short legs, and an odorous matter exuding from the glands behind. It is much larger than Weasels in general; being in length, from nose to tail, two feet three inches, the tail fourteen inches, and the

body rather thick. It is mostly of an ash colour, spotted with black; has a long nose, with whiskers; and eyes that are black and beautiful.

THIS animal is a native of India, the Philippine Isles, Guinea, Ethiopia, and Madagascar. The famous Drug, called *Musk*, is produced from them. To procure which, those who keep them provide a box for their habitation, and collect the Musk, by scraping it three times a week. The male, if irritated, will yield most. When young, they are fed with millet pap, and a little fish or flesh; but, when old, with raw flesh principally. In their wild state they prey on fowls.

ALTHOUGH a native of warm climates, it will live in temperate, and even in cold regions, if carefully defended from the weather. Great numbers are bred in Holland, where they afford considerable emolument to their owners. The Musk of Amsterdam, being less adulterated than any other, is most esteemed.



T H E B E A V E R .

THE Beaver is the only Quadruped that has a flat broad tail, covered with scales, which serves it as a rudder in the water, and also as cart to carry materials for its building on land. The hind feet are webbed, but the fore feet are not, from the necessity of using them as

hands. The fore-part, in general, resembles a Quadruped, and the hind part a fish. The teeth are formed like a saw, with which they cut the wood they use in building their huts, and damming the water out of them. The fur, which is of a deep chestnut brown, is the most valuable material used in the hat manufactory. Its length, from nose to tail, is about three feet; the tail is eleven inches long, and three broad.

IN June and July, they form their societies, of two and three hundred, which they continue all the rest of the year. Wherever they meet, they fix their abode, which is always by the side of a lake or river. The sagacity of this animal is truly worthy the consideration of the Naturalist and Philosopher, which it is impossible to consider, without the greatest humiliation to human pride. When we see a Beaver, with only its feet, teeth, and tail, capable of building a hut, as commodious for itself and young, as a cottage can be rendered to a peasant, even with the aid of reason and mechanical tools, what is the boasted superiority of Man!

If they fix their station by a river subject to floods, they build a dam or pier, which crosses the stream, so as to form a piece of water; but, if they settle near a lake, not liable to inundation, they save themselves this trouble. To form this dam or pier, they drive stakes of about five or six feet in length, wattling each row with twigs, and filling the interstices with clay. That side next the water is sloped, and the other perpendicular. The bottom is from ten to twelve feet thick, gradually diminishing to the top, which is but two or three feet at most. This dam is generally from eighty to an hundred feet in length. The greatness of the work, compared with the smallness of the architect, however astonishing, is not more wonderful than its firmness and solidity.

THE houses are erected near the shore, in the water collected by the dams. They are either round or oval, and are built on piles. The tops being vaulted, the inside resembles an oven, and the outside a dome. The walls, which are two feet thick, are made of earth, stones, and sticks, and plaistered with all the skill and excellence of the most expert mason. Every house has two openings,

one into the water, and the other towards the land. Their height is about eight feet. From two to thirty Beavers inhabit each dwelling; and, in each pond, there are from ten to twenty-five houses. They have each a bed of moss; and are such perfect epicures, that they daily regale on the choicest plants and fruits which the country affords.

THIS animal affords that celebrated resinous substance, called *Castoreum*, which is mixed most successfully in several hysteric and cephalic medicines. An oil is likewise extracted from it, called *Oil of Castor*, which, while it remains in its liquid, unctuous state, is used for the cure of several disorders.





THE PORCUPINE.

THIS animal is about two feet long, and fifteen inches in height. The body is covered with quills, from ten to fourteen inches long, and very sharp at the points, growing as feathers in birds. The head, belly, and legs, are covered with strong bristles. Its whiskers are long, and

the ears like those of a Man. When irritated, its quills stand erect. The eyes are remarkably small, being only about a quarter of an inch wide.

LIKE the Hedge-hog, these quills are rather for self-defence than the purpose of attacking an enemy. The idea formerly entertained, that it darted its quills, is found to be erroneous; they only shed them when they moult; which, in some measure, shows their alliance to the Bird Creation, though not destined for flight, having neither wings nor feathers. The quills, being found a sufficient defence against the most formidable animals, show how powerful the weakest materials may be rendered, when under the skill and workmanship of Infinite Wisdom.

A WOLF, it is said, was once found dead, with some of the quills of the Porcupine sticking in his mouth; no doubt but they must have stuck there when hunger induced him to the rash attempt of devouring this self-defended animal.

THE Porcupine is generally described to be an inoffensive animal, living entirely on fruits, roots, and vegetables; but some naturalists, particularly Dr. Goldsmith, assert, that they prey upon Serpents, with which they live in perpetual enmity. Their method of attacking them is described to be, that the Porcupine rolls itself on them, wounding them with its quills, until they expire, when they are immediately devoured by the victor.

IT is an inhabitant of India, Persia, Palestine, and every part of Africa. Although not originally a native of Europe, it is found wild in Italy; in which place they have smaller crests, and shorter quills, than those of Asia and Africa.

IN Rome, it is sold for food in the public markets.





T H E S L O T H .

TH E R E are two kinds of this animal; one of which has two claws on each foot, and is without a tail; the other, three claws on each foot, with a tail; and are both described under the common appellation of the Sloth. It is about the size of a Badger, and has a coarse fur, resembling

resembling dried grass; the tail is exceedingly short; and the mouth extends from ear to ear. The feet of this animal are so obliquely placed, that the soles scarcely ever touch the ground. The construction of its limbs is so singular, that it can move only at the rate of about three yards in an hour. Thus, unless impelled by hunger, it is seldom induced to change its place.

THE Sloth inhabits many parts on the eastern side of South America. It is the meanest, and most ill-formed of animals. Leaves, and fruits of trees, are its chief food. It is a ruminating animal, for which purpose Nature has provided it with four stomachs.

ALTHOUGH it ascends a tree with great difficulty, yet it cannot descend without forming itself into a ball, and dropping from the branches to the ground, where the shock causes it to remain for a considerable time in a perfect state of inactivity. To travel from one tree to another, at the distance of one hundred yards, is, for this animal, a week's journey.

EVERY effort which the Sloth makes to move, appears so painful and difficult, as to cause it to utter the most pitiful cry; which is likewise wisely given it for its protection; for, being defenceless, as well as incapable of flight, it could never escape destruction, was it not that their cry is so hideous, and lamentable in its tone, as to cause every beast to avoid the sound. How ought we to admire the Wisdom and Providence of the Almighty, who, by the breath only of this defenceless animal, has raised a bulwark for its protection!

WE should do injustice to the Great Creator of the Universe, who never created any thing in vain, could we suppose any animal was ever so formed, as to be incapable of comfort; although the Sloth carries every appearance of misery in its nature, there cannot be a doubt but it has satisfactions peculiarly suited to its station.





THE ARMADILLO.

NATURE seems to have reserved all the wonders of her power for those remote countries, where Man is most savage, and Quadrupeds the most various. She seems to become more wonderful, in proportion, the further she retires from human inspection. But this, in reality, only
arises

arises from the attempts of Man to rid the country of such strange productions, in proportion as he becomes more civilized.

THE Armadillo, which is covered with shells, at the first view, appears a round misshapen mass, with a long head, and short tail. Its size is from one to three feet in length. These shells, which resemble a bony substance, cover the head, neck, sides, rump, and tail. This natural defensive covering, being jointed, the creature has the power of moving beneath its armour, which resembles a coat of mail.

As these shells are only sufficient to defend the Armadillo from a feeble enemy, and not equal to the resistance of a powerful antagonist, Nature has furnished it with a method of inclosing its body within the covert of this armour. Thus, like the Hedgehog and Porcupine, it is secured from danger, without having recourse to flight or resistance, and becomes invulnerable while in the midst of danger.



T H E H A R E .

THIS timid and defenceless animal is another instance of the bountiful care of Providence towards mankind. The Hare not only supplies us with a delicacy for our table, and a covering for our heads, (the fur being manufactured into hats) but also affords us one of the most wholesome of our rural diversions.

It

It is an inhabitant of most parts of Europe, Asia, Egypt, Barbary, Japan, Ceylon, and North-America; but those of Barbary, Spain, and Italy, are much smaller than ours. In Wales and France they are generally larger, though not of so fine a flavour.

THIS solitary animal has, independent of Man, a host of enemies, both in the animal and feathered tribes. The Fox, Polecat, Stote, and Weasel, hunt them with such unremitting perseverance, that, notwithstanding their swiftness, it is with great difficulty they escape their rapacious pursuit. The Weasel will frequently fasten upon the neck of a Hare, while on her form, and hold there till it is quite dead, sucking its blood while running. The Kite, Hawk, Owl, and many other birds of prey, are very destructive to young Leverets. This persecuted animal, however, like the Rabbit, is so prolific, as to afford a plentiful supply to those who protect it against the unlawful and destructive snares of the poacher.

THE female goes thirty days with young, and brings forth from two to four at a time, with their eyes open;
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she breeds six or seven times a year, and suckles her young for twenty days, when her maternal cares cease. After this time, they feed on grass, roots, leaves, corn, plants, and the bark of young trees, to which they are often very destructive in nurseries and plantations. They breed when but a few months old.

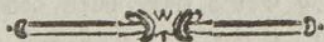
THOUGH the Hare is reckoned the most timorous of all animals in its wild state, it will, if taken when young, become so tame and familiar, as to sleep with the Greyhound, Terrier, or Pointer; of which the writer of this article has been an eye-witness. This solitary animal, although not possessed of the wily subtilty of the Fox, discovers a most wonderful instinct, which has been given it for its preservation. The various stratagems and doubles it makes, when hunted, to avoid death, would excite the surprize of every beholder; nor does it display less sagacity and cunning, in preventing the poacher from tracing it through the snow, by taking the most extraordinary leaps, to elude danger, before she takes her form.



THE RABBIT, AND THE MOLE.

THE great similarity between the Rabbit and the Hare, leaves but little to be said by the natural historian, or the moralist, in its description. Their figure, food, and natural properties, are nearly the same. The Hare seeks its safety by flight, while the Rabbit runs to its subterraneous burrow, which Nature has taught her to make with

with an ingenuity, not to be excelled by the most experienced miner. The fruitfulness of the Rabbit so far exceeds that of the Hare, that, according to Pliny and Strabo, they were so great a nuisance in the Balearic Islands, in the reign of Augustus, they were under the necessity of imploring the assistance of a military force from the Romans to extirpate them. A Spanish historian also says, that, on the discovery of a small island, which they named Puerto Santo, or Holy Haven, where they were saved from shipwreck, they put a pair of Rabbits on shore, which increased so much in the course of a few years, that they drove away the inhabitants, by destroying their corn and plants, who left them to enjoy the island without opposition.



T H E M O L E.

AS if Nature had meant that no part of the earth should be untenanted, so the Mole is formed in such a manner, as to live entirely under ground. The size of this animal is between that of the Rat and the Mouse, but without any resemblance of either, being quite different

rent from any other of the four-footed race. It has a nose like a Hog, but longer in proportion; instead of ears, it has only two holes; and its eyes are so remarkably small, that it is with the greatest difficulty they are discovered.

THE moderns, as well as the ancients, were universally of opinion that the Mole was totally blind; but Dr. Derham, by the means of a microscope, discovered all the parts of the eye known in other animals.

A VERY small degree of vision being sufficient for a creature destined to a subterraneous abode, Providence has wisely formed them in this manner; for, had they been larger, they would have been continually liable to injury, by the earth falling into them; to prevent which inconvenience, they are likewise covered with fur. Another wonderful contrivance, to be observed in Nature's works, is, that this animal is furnished with a certain muscle, by which it can exert, or draw back the eye, as necessity requires.

As a recompence for this defect in the optic nerves, the Mole enjoys two other senses in the highest perfection; viz. hearing and smelling; the first of which gives it the most early notice of danger, while the latter, although in the midst of darkness, directs it to its food. The wants of a subterraneous animal being but few, so those of the Mole are easily supplied; worms and insects, inhabiting their regions, being their only food.

ALTHOUGH the Mole is generally black, yet it is sometimes spotted, and has also been found quite white. The fur is short, and close set, and smoother than the finest velvet. The length, including the tail, which is about an inch, is seven inches. It breeds in the spring, and generally brings forth four or five at a time.





THE JERBOA.

THIS singular, and, we may say, pretty little animal, is a native of Egypt, Barbary, Palestine, and the deserts between Balfora and Aleppo. It is about the size of a large Rat; has dark and full eyes, long whiskers, broad, erect ears, and a head like a Rabbit. The tail is about

ten

ten inches long, at the end of which is a tuft of black hair, tipped with white. The breast and belly are of a whitish colour; but all the other part of the body is ash-colour at the bottom, and tawny at the ends. The fore legs are not above an inch in length, with five toes on each, which are all furnished with sharp claws; but the hind legs, which are two inches and a quarter in length, and covered with short hair, exactly resemble those of a bird, having but three toes, the middle of which is the longest; they are also armed with sharp claws.

THIS little animal is as singular in its motion as in its form; always walking or standing on its hind legs, and using the fore paws as hands, like the Squirrel. It will jump six or seven feet from the ground, when pursued, and run so remarkably swift, that few Quadrupeds can overtake it. It is a very inoffensive creature, living entirely on vegetables. It burrows in the ground, like Rabbits.

IN the year 1770, two of them, which were exhibited in London, had nearly burrowed through the wall of the room in which they were kept.

THERE

THERE is an animal of this species in Siberia, which is a more expert digger than the Rabbit itself; their burrows are so numerous in some places, as to be even dangerous to travellers.

IT is related of this latter, that it will cut grafs, and leave it in little heaps to dry; which not only serves them for food, but also makes their habitation warm and comfortable for themselves and their young during the winter season.

THERE is also the Torrid Jerboa, so called by Linnaeus from its inhabiting the Torrid Zone, which is about the size of a common Mouse; and the Indian Jerboa; a specimen of which was to be seen in the cabinet of the celebrated Dr. Hunter.





NATURAL HISTORY.

PART II.

BIRDS.

THEIR GENERAL NATURE.

INTRODUCTION.

WHILE the forests, the waters, and even the depths of the earth, have their respective inhabitants, the air, which includes an immense space, too elevated for the power of Man to explore, are traversed by innumerable beings, of variegated beauty, called Birds; which, in order to facilitate their flight through those expansive regions, with a swiftness to compensate their want of strength, are formed on the following general principles.

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FORM.---The body of a Bird, is made sharp in front, and, when on flight through its native element, it swells gradually, until the tail is fully expanded, which, with the aid of the wings, serves it not only as a buoy, but also as a rudder to direct its flight.

PLUMAGE.---They are covered with feathers, most admirably adapted to the air they inhabit, being composed of a quill, containing a considerable quantity of air, and a shaft, edged on each side with a most volatile substance, which, with the concavity of the wings, renders the body considerably lighter than the air; and thus enables them to explore an immense space, denied to every other part of the Creation.

SIGHT.---To adapt the sight to the swiftness of their motions, their eyes are not so convex or prominent as in creatures confined to the earth; which not only prevents their being injured by the repulsive force of the air, in their rapid flights, but likewise renders them less liable to be touched with the points of thorns, sprays, &c. in their progress among trees, bushes, and hedges. The film, or nictating membrane, with which they occasionally cover their eyes, without closing the lids, clears and
protects

protects them from the glare of sun-beams, as well as from the mists, fogs, and clouds, with which the air occasionally abounds, when forced to range for food or nesting. The power also of extending the optic nerve, gives such an acuteness to their sight, that they can perceive objects more distinctly, and at a greater distance, than any other creature.

HEARING.---They have the power of distinguishing sounds, without any external ear, which would not only impede their flight, but render them liable to many injuries in darting through bushes, briars, &c.

SMELLING.---Their scent is so very acute and extensive, by which they are apprised of the approach of their natural, as well as artificial enemies, that those who decoy Ducks, are obliged to keep a piece of burning turf in their mouths, to prevent being discovered.

INTERNAL STRUCTURE.---The bones, which are formed sufficiently strong to support the weight of the body, and the system of its functions, are so light, as to

be scarcely any additional burthen to the flesh. All their internal structure is calculated to increase the surface beyond the proportion of the solidity of their bodies, in order to render them lighter than the same portion of air. The lungs and ends of the windpipe branches imbibe air into a number of bladder receptacles. The crop, which is the repository for superfluous food, supplies them in long flights, and other times of indispensable necessity. Their food, being generally dry, hard, and crude, they have a gizzard, which, with the help of sand, and other stony particles they swallow, aid them in digestion.

MOULTING.---Although Birds, from the simplicity of their structure, habitation of the air, and perpetual exercise, are less subject to disease than other creatures, yet they are liable to one to which no others are exposed; this is the sickness attending the annual renovation of their plumage, which is called their Moulting time.

GENERATION.---In the Spring, when Nature affords abundance of food, Birds are stimulated to pair, to increase their species. Having chosen their mate for the ensuing year,

year, they proceed to those official cares which distinguish the approach of being made parents. With all the fondness of such expectations, they proceed to collect materials for their nests, which they build with the skill of the most expert architect. They discover so much constancy to each other, with such unabating care and affection in breeding and rearing their young, that they might be taken as examples by the human species.

HABITATION.----Birds are particularly attached to the place of their nativity. A Rook, if undisturbed, will never quit its native grove; the Blackbird and Redbreast are tenacious of their birthrights; and many others, that are known to emigrate annually from this country, have been found, by frequent experiments, to return to their usual breeding places.

MIGRATION---Is that passage of Birds from one climate to another, according as they are impelled by fear, hunger, or change of seasons. Many have been the conjectures of naturalists and travellers respecting this extraordinary conduct in particular Birds. Some have supposed,

that those which were not strong enough to sustain a flight over expanding oceans, collected themselves in bodies, and repaired to chasms in rocks, or sought a temporary tomb beneath the waters, where they remained, in a state of torpidity, until the revolving seasons should recall them to the exercise of their former functions. Others have imagined, that they actually sought climes more congenial to their nature and subsistence, at a time when cold and scarcity rendered the country of their sojournment both dangerous and inconvenient. The times of their departure and return are so regular, that, in the course of five years, the average has not exceeded more than a single day. Those tribes which have not sufficient strength to cross the immense deserts and vast oceans, such as Swallows, Martins, &c. are supposed to find a winter subsistence in the southern countries of Europe, where the clemency of the season seems, most hospitably, to invite them to partake of their bounties. r

It has been observed, that some Birds, which migrate in particular climates, are constantly resident in others. According to Herodotus, there is a species of Swallow, that

that abides perpetually in Egypt; which must undoubtedly arise from the equality of the seasons in that part of Africa. This property, therefore, is not peculiar to any particular species of Bird, but rather caused by the difference of the country and climate in which they are bred. In Cayan, Java, and other warm climates, those Birds, which uniformly migrate in the cold regions of Norway, North America, and Kamtschatka, are constant residents through every change of season. The manner of their departure is too curious to pass unnoticed. They range themselves in a column, like an I, or in two lines, resembling the sides of a wedge. When they have taken flight, one particular bird takes the lead; after going a certain distance, he is relieved by another. In their progress, several particulars occur, to excite our wonder, as well as our veneration, at that immensity of wisdom, which has formed them with so extraordinary an instinct. Who acquainted their young with the time, place, and necessity of their departure; and what can induce them to change the place of their nativity for a strange country? Who causes the imprisoned Bird to feel its captivity at the time of emigration; or who is the Herald, to assemble

these feathered voyagers and travellers? Who is it that forbids one to depart before the appointed time? Who forms their charts; or who supplies them with a compass, to direct them over pathless wastes, and trackless oceans? Or who is it that guides them to those countries, where they rest and recruit themselves after their long journies, so as to be enabled to reach their destined sojournment? As these questions can only be referred to the wisdom of the Great Creator of the Universe, we cannot avoid learning from them this lesson of humility at least; that, whatever may be the boast of human reason, it vanishes, when compared with this wonderful instinct of the emigrative power in Birds.

CLASSES.---According to Linnæus, Birds are divided into Six Classes, in the following order :

I. THE *Rapacious Kind*---Which are carnivorous, and live by preying on others, or eating the flesh of dead animals. They are distinguished by the beak, which is strong, hooked, and notched at the point; by their short muscular legs, strong toes, and crooked talons; by their
 strength

strength of body, impurity of flesh, nature of food, and ferocious cruelty.

II. *THE Pie Kind*---Which are distinguished by their miscellaneous food, and their females being fed by the males in breeding time.

III. *THE Poultry Kind*---Which are distinguished by their fat muscular bodies, and pure white flesh. Strangers to any attachment, unlike other Birds, they are promiscuous in the choice of their mates.

IV. *THE Sparrow Kind*---Which mostly compose the vocal and beautiful. Some live on feed, others on insects. While rearing, they are remarkably fond and faithful.

V. *THE Duck Kind*---Are distinguished by their bills, which serve them as strainers for their food; and by their feet, which, being webbed, enable them to swim in the waters, where they chiefly reside.

VI. *THE Crane Kind*---Are distinguished by their long and penetrating bills, which enable them to search

for food at the bottom of waters, near which they chiefly reside; and by their necks and legs, which are proportionable in length.

HAVING thus briefly given an account of the different Classes, with their distinguishing peculiarities, we shall begin our description with those which cannot be ranged systematically; such as the Ostrich, Cassowary, Condour, Dodo, &c. which, being of extraordinary size, and incapable of flying, are not included in the Six Classes before mentioned.





T H E O S T R I C H.

THIS Bird, according to Naturalists, is one of the largest in the world. The head, which is like that of a Duck, rises to the height of a man on horseback. The body is like a Camel, and has two short wings, which, though exceeding strong, are not expansive enough to

buoy it from the surface of the earth; but, with their assistance, added to the length of its legs, it exceeds in speed the swiftest Arabian. It has legs and thighs like a Heron, and each foot has three claws covered with horn, the elastic strength of which greatly facilitates and increases its flight.

ITS eggs are so large, that they commonly weigh fifteen pounds. That they disregard their future progeny, Kolben denies, having seen them sit on their eggs at the Cape of Good Hope. She, however, deserts them by day; but, like other Birds, returns to them at night. The climate at the Cape requiring her brooding heat, it is a natural instinct; but, in those parts of Africa, nearer the Equator, we conceive they do, as reported, leave their eggs to be hatched by the heat of the sun, but not without the precaution of covering them with sand, and bringing worms and other provisions for the young, when hatched; for, in birds, as in other creatures, Nature conforms to the soil and climate which they are to inhabit. The simplicity and ignorance of the Ostrich is particularly observable, in its only hiding its head to secure its body from the attack of the hunters.

THE amazing power possessed by this Bird, of digesting stones, iron, and other crude substances, evinces the wisdom of the Creator, in giving it the faculty of turning to nutriment those things which its barren and native deserts only afford.

THE Ostrich seems to fill one of those voids in Nature, between the quadruped and feathered race, as the Bat does another; the former resembling the Camel, in the same proportion as the Bat does the Mouse.

To the beauty of its plumage this Bird owes its destruction. But, in return, it triumphs over Man; for the feathers which its death affords the pursuers, attend the hearse of Man to the grave.



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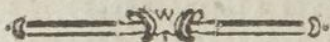
THE CASSOWARY.

THIS Bird, which is found in the southern parts of the East Indies, is about five feet and a half high. The wings are so small, as to be scarcely perceptible. It has a crest on its head, resembling a helmet, three inches high. Though every feather of this Bird is adapted for flight,
none

none are entirely destined for covering. The extremities of them are armed with five prickles, the longest of which is eleven inches. It is described to have the head of a Warrior, the eye of a Lion, defence of a Porcupine, and fleetness of a Courser. But, though provided thus formidably, it is perfectly inoffensive. It neither walks, runs, hops, jumps, or flies; but, kicking up one leg behind, it bounds forward with the other, with a velocity not to be equalled by the swiftest Arabian.

THIS Bird, like the Ostrich, is extremely voracious of all things capable of passing its swallow. The Dutch assert, that it not only devours glass, iron, and stones, but even burning coals, without the least fear or injury. From its scarcity, it is generally supposed not to be so prolific as the Ostrich; but this may be more owing to their native place being usurped by Man, than from any defect in its nature; for, both its natural armour and digestive power, are convincing proofs that it is destined for the desert, and not for cultivated plains. So that, like other wild creatures, when they have, in vain, disputed with Man the possession of their own territories, they may have with-

drawn themselves to some solitary desert, far from the prying eye of Man, and for which they are so peculiarly formed.



T H E E M U,

WHICH is a Bird but little known, is six feet high, resembling the Ostrich in form; and has been reckoned, by travellers and naturalists, to be of the same species. It is the largest Bird yet discovered on the new continent: but is chiefly found in Guiana, Brazil, Chili, and the immense forests bordering on the mouth of the river Plata. Some assert, that it buries its eggs in the sand, like the Ostrich; but they may be mistaken, as those of the Crocodile are buried and hatched in the same manner.





T H E D O D O .

THE inactive appearance of this Bird, seems to fill another void in Nature between Birds and Beasts, which is that between the Sloth, and a more active individual of the feathered tribe. Its body, which is nearly round, is very ponderous, and covered with grey feathers. The legs

legs resemble the pillars of a fixed building, but seem scarcely strong enough to support the body; the neck is thick and purfy; and the head has two wide chaps, that open beyond the eyes, which are large, black, and prominent; the bill, which is extremely long and thick, is of a bluish white, and crooked in opposite directions, resembling two pointed spoons laid on the back of each other. It has a stupid and voracious appearance, which is greatly increased by a bordering of feathers, that grow round the root of the beak, and have the appearance of a cowl or hood. The Dodo is, in short, a most complete picture of stupidity and deformity.

LIKE the Sloth, it is incapable either of defence or flight. It is a native of the Isle of France, where it was first found by the Dutch. It is asserted by some, that the flesh is nauseous, while others, on the contrary, contend that it is palatable and wholesome. This Bird grows to such an enormous size, that three or four of them are sufficient to dine a hundred sailors. The Dodo, by some, is thought to be the Bird of Nazareth, the description of it being exactly similar to that Bird.

THIS

THIS seems to be an entire exception to the general nature of Birds, both in appearance, as well as activity. If we except the Owls, and Birds of that description, there are scarcely any but what are agreeable in form, and alert in motion; but this, on the other hand, appears formed, not only to disgust the spectator, but to be almost an immoveable burlesque of the feathered tribe. Were we allowed to give our opinion of the final cause of creating so unseemly a creature, we should say, it was formed as a foil to the various beauties discovered in the rest of the Bird Creation.





THE GOLDEN EAGLE.

THIS Bird is about three feet nine inches in length, and eight spans in breadth. Its bill is strong, sharp, and crooked: the eye has four lids, to guard it against excessive light, and prevent it from external injuries: the toes are covered with scales; and the claws are exceedingly strong

Strong and formidable. It is found in the mountainous parts of Ireland, where its fierceness has been observed to attack Cats, Dogs, Sheep, &c. As it seldom lays more than two eggs, it is a convincing proof that Providence has wisely prevented too great an increase of what might prove very offensive, if not destructive to the possessions of mankind. Some of these birds have been found in Wales.

THE male engages in the maintenance of the young for the first three months; after which time the female undertakes, and continues in this employment, until they are capable of providing for themselves. The Eagle flies the highest of all birds, and is therefore called the Bird of Heaven. Bochart says, that it lives a century, during which period it is continually increasing. Such is its thirst after blood, that it never drinks any other liquid, unless when sick. The Swan is the only bird that dare resist this King of Birds. All others, not even excepting the Dragon, tremble at his terrific cry. Not content with preying on birds, and the smaller beasts, it will plunge into seas, lakes, and rivers, after fish. His sight is more
acute

acute than that of any other bird. It carries the young on its back to secure them from the fowler. The feathers are renovated every ten years, which greatly increases its vigour, as expressed in the beautiful simile of David: *Thy youth shall be renewed like that of the Eagle.* The Eagle that would not quit the corpse of Pyrrhus, who had brought it up from a nestling, is a proof that this species of bird is capable of attachment and gratitude.

THERE are sixteen other sorts of Eagles; namely, the Sun, Bald, Ring-tailed, and Black Eagles; Osprey Bird; Crowned, Common, White, Rough-footed, Erne, Jean le Blanc, Brazilian, Oroonoko, Eagle of Pondicherry, and Vulturine Eagle.





THE CONDOUR OF AMERICA.

IT is doubtful which this bird is most allied to, the Eagle or the Vulture; its force and vivacity resembling the former, while the baldness of its head and neck are like the latter. No bird can compare with it for size, strength, rapacity, and swiftness of flight. It is, therefore,

fore, more formidable than the Eagle to birds, beasts, and even to mankind. The rarity of this pernicious and destructive bird, is another instance of the great care of Providence in proportioning these creatures, according to their utility or ferocious propensity; for, were the Condour as prolific, or common as others of the feathered tribe, it would spread universal devastation.

SIR Hans Sloane says, one was shot by Captain Strong, not far from Mocha, an island in the South Seas, on the Coast of Chili, as it was sitting on a cliff by the sea side. The wings, when extended, measured, from each extremity, sixteen feet. One of the feathers, which is now in the British Museum, is two feet four inches in length, one inch and a half in circumference, and weighed three drachms, seventeen grains and a half.

ACCORDING to Garcilasio de la Vaga, several have been killed by the Spaniards, which in general measured fifteen or sixteen feet from wing to wing. To prevent the too fatal exercise of their fierceness, Nature has denied them such talents as the Eagle. They have only
claws.

claws, which are as harmless as those of the Hen. Their beaks are, however, strong enough to tear off the hide, and penetrate the bowels of an Ox. Two of them will attack and devour a Cow or a Bull; and it has often happened that boys of ten years of age have fallen a prey to them. The inhabitants of Chili are, therefore, in continual dread lest their children should be devoured in their absence. In order to allure them, they expose the form of a child, made of a very glutinous clay, on which they dart with such rapidity, and penetrate so deeply with their beaks, that they cannot disengage themselves. The Indians assert, that they will seize and bear aloft a Deer, or a young Calf, as easily as Eagles do a Hare or a Rabbit.

NATURE apprises every one of its approach, by causing it to make so great a noise with its wings, as almost to occasion deafness. The body is as large as that of a Sheep, and the flesh as disagreeable as carrion. Thus Man loses no food from the providential scarcity of this terrific and devouring creature. Forests, not affording room for its flight, are never infested with its depredations; they, therefore, dwell mostly in mountains, visiting the
shores

shores at night, when rain or tempests drive their finny prey thither for shelter.

THEY are chiefly to be found in the deserts of Pachomac, where men seldom venture to travel; those wild regions being alone sufficient to inspire the mind with a secret horror, affording no other music but the roaring of wild beasts, and the hissing of Serpents; while the adjacent mountains are rendered equally terrible from the visits of this destructive bird.

THIS bird is thought, by naturalists, to be the same as the Rock, found in Arabia, the Tarnassar, in the East Indies, and the large Vulture, in Senegal.





THE KING OF THE VULTURES.

THIS bird differs from the Eagle, in its indelicate voracity; preying more upon carrion than live animals; which disposition seems wisely adopted by Providence, as a prevention against the nauseous and epidemical effects that might otherwise arise from carcases being left to putrify

trify on the earth. Its preying on the eggs of Crocodiles, which lay each of them at least two or three hundred, in the sands, is another dispensation of Divine Providence, in order to prevent too great an increase of those voracious and destructive animals.

THE form of this bird is distinguished from the Eagle, by the nakedness of its head and neck, though, not being destined to prey particularly on living birds, &c. their flight is not equal to that of the Eagle, Falcon, or Hawk. But, being allured by putrefaction, their sense of smelling is proportionably exquisite. Happily for us, it is a stranger to England, while it is found in Arabia, Egypt, and many parts of Africa and Asia. There is a down under the wings, which in the African markets is frequently sold as a valuable fur.

THE Vulture is considered so serviceable in Egypt, that, in Grand Cairo, large flocks are permitted to reside, in order to devour the carrion of that great city, which would otherwise be liable to frequent pestilence.

IT is serviceable, likewise, in those countries where hunters pursue, and destroy animals merely for the skins; as they follow, and devour the bodies before they lie long enough to corrupt the air; which they do so greedily and voraciously, as to be unable to fly. But, when they are attacked, they have a power of lightening their stomachs, so as to effect their escape.

THIS bird is somewhat larger than a Turkey-cock, and remarkable for the uncommon formation of the skin covering the head and neck, (which is of an orange colour) being bare. The eyes are surrounded with a skin of a scarlet colour, and have a beautiful pearl-coloured iris. Although the King of the Vultures stands confessedly the most beautiful of this deformed race, its habits are equally disagreeable with the rest.

THE flight and cry of these birds, being particularly observed and attended to by the Roman Augurs, must have arisen from their considering, where they were most inclined to direct their flight, from the previous sense they had of an approaching slaughter; which the Romans always

ways flattered themselves was to ensue of the enemies they were preparing to engage.



THE GOLDEN VULTURE.

ALTHOUGH this bird is larger, yet, in other respects, it resembles the Golden Eagle. It is four feet and a half in length. The lower part of the neck, breast, and belly, are red: the back is covered with black feathers, the wings and tail with those of a yellowish brown. Though the various species differ very much in respect to colour and dimensions, yet they are all easily distinguished by their naked heads, and beaks partly straight, and partly hooked.

In this class are also to be ranged, the Golden, Ash-coloured, and Brown Vultures, natives of Europe; the Spotted and Black Vultures, of Egypt; the Brazilian, and the Bearded Vultures.



T H E F A L C O N .

THE dignified sport of Falconry, which formerly distinguished the recreation of the English Nobility, has been long discontinued. A person of rank scarcely ever appeared without his Falcon, which, in old paintings, are the criterion of titular distinction. Harold, afterwards King

King of England, was painted with a Falcon on his hand, and a Dog under his arm, when he was going on an important embassy. To wind a horn, and carry a Falcon with grace, were then marks of being well bred. Learning was left for the study of children, born in a more humble sphere.

IN the reign of James I. Sir Thomas Monson gave one thousand pounds for a Cast of Hawks. An unqualified person, taking the eggs of a Hawk, even upon his own ground, was fined and imprisoned, at the pleasure of the pleasure of the King. Edward III. made it felony to steal a Hawk.

THE Generous Hawk is distinguished from the baser race of Kites, Sparrow-hawks, and Buzzards, by the second feather, which in this kind is the longest; whereas, in the other kinds, the fourth feather is the longest. They also possess natural powers, of which the other race are destitute. They pursue their game with more swiftness and confidence, and, from their generosity of temper, they are so attached to their feeders, as to become very tractable.

THE Hawk or Falcon pursues the Heron, Kite, and Woodlark, by flying perpendicularly upwards, which affords the greatest diversion; while other birds, by flying horizontally, diminish the pleasure of the sportsman, as well as endanger the loss of his Hawk.

THE Norwegian breed of Hawks were of such esteem in the reign of King John, that, in consideration of a present of two of these birds, that monarch allowed the friend of Jeffry Fitzpierre to export one hundred weight of cheese; a very great privilege in those days. We learn further, from Maddox's Antiquities, that the interest of Richard I. was obtained, by the present of one Norway Hawk, in favour of John, the son of Ordgar.





THE GYR-FALCON.

THIS species of Falcon, which exceeds all others, both in size and elegance, is nearly as large as an Eagle. The bill is hooked and yellow, and the plumage mostly white: the feathers of the back and wings have black spots, in the shape of hearts: the thighs are clothed with long feathers,

thers, of the purest white: the legs are yellow, and feathered below the knees. This bird is sometimes found entirely white. It was used to fly at the noblest game, such as Cranes, Herons, &c.

IN this species of birds may be classed, the Peregrine Falcon, Sacre, Mountain, Grey, White, Tunis or Barbary Falcons, and

THE FALCON GENTLE,

WHICH is known from other Falcons by the neck, being surrounded with a light yellow ring.

MANY mistakes having been made, with respect to the names of this species of bird, we think it necessary to inform our Readers, that they are called, according to the times they are taken, after the following names :

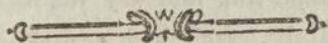
If taken in June, July, or Aug. they are called *Gentle*
 - - - - - Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. - - - - - *Pilgrims*
 - - - - - Jan. Febr. March - - - - - *Antenere*
 and, if once moulted, it is called *Hagar*, from the Hebrew, which signifies a *Stranger*.



THE GOSHAWK.

THIS bird, which is larger than the Common Buzzard, is longer in form, and more elegant in shape. The breast and belly are white, beautifully streaked with transverse lines of black and white. This species, as well as that of the Sparrow-hawk, are distinguished by the name
of

of Short-winged Hawks, from their wings, when closed, not reaching to the end of the tail. This bird was formerly much esteemed, and taught by Falconers to pursue Cranes, Wild Geese, Pheasants, and Partridges.



T H E K I T E.

THE Kite differs from all the rest of the species, by its forked tail, slow, floating motion, and being almost continually on the wing. Instead of using the wings when flying, it appears to rest on the bosom of the air. Pliny supposes the invention of the rudder to be owing to the notice mankind have taken of the Kite, in using its tail to direct its flight. Every bird in the air, being capable of escaping the pursuit of the Kite, it is obliged to subsist on accidental carnage, which it devours like a famished savage, without the least mercy or moderation

HUNGER often makes them so desperate, as to attack broods of chickens, ducklings, &c.

It usually breeds in large forests, or woody mountains. The hen lays two or three eggs, which, like those of other birds of prey, are larger at the narrow end than those laid by the other species. When this bird flies high, it is said to portend fine and dry weather. It has been, though erroneously, reckoned among birds of passage. It is twenty-seven inches in length, five feet in breadth, and in weight about forty-four ounces. This bird, possessing no peculiarity of plumage, we omit giving an uninteresting detail of its feathers: we shall, therefore, only observe, that they sometimes differ in colour; some being entirely tawny, while others are variegated.

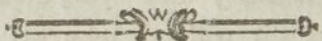


THE COMMON BUZZARD.

THIS bird, which is remarkably sluggish and inactive, will frequently remain perched a whole day on the same bough. Frogs, mice, and insects, are its chief subsistence.

ance. The reason for preferring which, seems to arise from natural indolence, they being more easily obtained than birds, which it will not take the trouble of flying after. It lives in the summer by robbing nests, and sucking the eggs. In countenance, it more resembles the Owl, than any bird of day. Should the hen Buzzard be killed, the cock will hatch, and rear the young. They breed in large woods, and generally build on an old crow's nest. The young accompany their parents for some time after they can fly, which distinguishes them from other birds of prey. They vary considerably in their plumage; some having brown breasts and bellies, while others are only marked on the breast with a white crescent. They are about two feet long, four feet wide, and thirty-two ounces in weight.

OF this species there are also, the Honey, Moor, and Turkey Buzzard; the Hen-harrier, Kestrel, and Hobby.



THE SPARROW-HAWK.

THESE is a great difference in size between the male and female of this bird; the latter weighing nearly twice as much as the former. They vary also considerably in their plumage; though the back, head, coverts of the wings, and tail, are generally of a blue grey. It makes great devastation among Pigeons and Partridges.

THE Sparrow-hawk was in such veneration among the Egyptians, that they chose it as the representative of their God Osiris, and punished with death every person who should kill one. The Greeks consecrated it to Apollo. It was also made one of the symbols of Juno, from its fixed and piercing sight, which resembled the jealous observance of that Goddess.

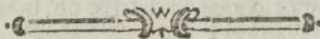
THE



THE MERLIN,

WHICH is the smallest of Hawks, and not much larger than a Thrush, has been known to kill Quails and Partridges, and display such courage, as to render itself as formidable as birds of six times its magnitude.

THE female, like that of all birds of prey, is considerably larger than the male. It was known to the ancients by the name of Llamysden.



THE GREATER BUTCHER BIRD.

THIS bird leads a life of perpetual hostility. It is about the size of a Blackbird. From its carnivorous appetite, it participates of the nature of birds of prey, while from its slender legs, feet, and toes, it partakes of the nature of those that live upon grain, insects, &c.

WHEN this bird has killed its prey, it hangs it upon a thorn, as a butcher hangs up a carcase, and pulls it to pieces with his bill. Its usual food is small birds, which it seizes by the throat, and strangles in an instant. The old and young seek their prey in concert. It is ten inches in length, fourteen inches broad, and three ounces in weight. The back, and coverts of the wings, are of an ash colour, and the sides of the head are white.

OF this species are also to be found, the Red-backed Butcher-bird, the Wood-Chat, and the Least Butcher Bird; which latter, although not much larger than a Tit-mouse, is a bird of prey. The head is of a fine grey, and beneath each eye there is a tuft of black feathers.





T H E O W L .

HAVING described the rapacious birds of day, we proceed to those of night, which are equally cruel, and more treacherous. That no link in the chain of Nature should be incomplete, these birds employ the night in devastation, preventing by this means any chasm in the round

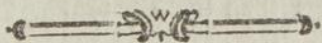
of time. They are distinguished from all other birds by their eyes, which are better adapted for the purposes of darkness than of light. Like Tigers and Cats, which subsist by their nocturnal watchfulness, they are endued with the power of discerning objects, at a time when we should conceive it to be totally dark. The idea, however, that they see best in total darkness, is erroneous; twilight, which is the medium between the glare of day, and the gloom of night, being the time they see with the greatest perspicuity. But the faculty of sight differs greatly in the different species.

THE note of the Owl is truly hideous; and such is the antipathy of the small birds to it, that, if one appears by chance in the day-time, they all surround, insult, and beat him. So great however is the utility of this bird, that one Owl will destroy, in the same space of time, more mice than six cats.

THE White, or Barn Owl, which is the most domestic, can see the smallest mouse peep from its hole; while the Brown Owl is frequently observed to have a sight strong enough

enough to seek its prey in the day-time. Destined to appear by night only, Nature seems to have thought it unnecessary to lavish on them any beauties, either of form or plumage, as they would have been lost to general contemplation.

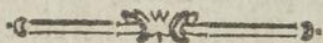
As a subject of vigilance, this bird was consecrated to Minerva, and seems to fill that chasm between quadrupeds and the feathered race, which is observable between Cats and Birds.



THE GREAT HORNED OWL,

WHICH is nearly as large as an Eagle, has some feathers rising from his head, which he can elevate or lower, at pleasure. The back, and coverts of the wings, are varied with deep brown and yellow. It usually breeds in caverns, hollow trees, or ruined buildings, making their nests nearly three feet in diameter.

THIS species of Owl is sometimes found in Cheshire, Wales, and the north of England.



THE LESSER HORNED OWL.

THE wings of this bird are so long, that, when closed, they reach beyond their tails. The feathers of the head, back, and coverts of the wings, are brown, edged with yellow: the tip of the tail is white.

THERE is also a smaller kind of Horned Owl, which is not much larger than the Thrush.

OF Owls, there are also, the Little Owl, which is remarkable for its elegance; the Screech Owl, which has blue eyes, and iron-grey feathers; and the Brown Owl, which remains all day in the woods.

NOTWITHSTANDING this species of birds differ so materially, both in size and plumage, their eyes are all adapted for nocturnal vision, to enable them to seek their food, which they always do by night. They have strong muscular bodies; powerful feet and claws, for tearing their prey; and stomachs properly adapted for digestion.

BIRDS



BIRDS of the P^OULTRY KIND.

THIS Class is the most harmless, as well as the most serviceable to Man. It not only furnishes the table of the epicure with various dainties, but also forms a considerable addition to the necessaries of life. The Rapacious Kind may amuse us in the sports of the field, and the warbling songster, with its melodious voice, delight us in the grove; but none can equal the essential service, and solid advantages of the Domestic Poultry. They are a source of wealth to the peasantry, who keep them at a small expence, especially at farm houses, and where they have a range of common; which the prodigious influx of eggs and fowls, continually pouring into the markets of this great and opulent metropolis, daily testify.

THEY were originally of foreign origin; but time and the climate has so inured them to us, that they are now considered as natives; and, by their great increase, form no inconsiderable part of merchandise.

As the Rapacious Class are formed for war, this seems equally desirous of peace. They are naturally indolent and voluptuous; have a strong stomach, usually called a gizzard, which makes them very voracious; while pent up, even, and separated from their companions, they still enjoy the pleasure of eating, and will grow fat, while many of the wilder species pine away, and refuse even common sustenance.

IT is particularly remarkable of this Class of Birds, that, though naturally fond of society, their sensual appetites are such, as to admit of no connubial fidelity, which is such a distinguishing characteristic in Birds of the Rapacious Kind, such as the Eagle, &c. whose connexions, when once formed, never end but with their lives.

THE Cock, like the Bull, wild and irregular in his appetites, ranges from one Hen to another, struts about the farm yard, like a Sultan in his seraglio, and considers every one of his sex as his rival and enemy. Careless of his progeny, he leaves to the female all the care of providing for the young; which she performs with the greatest maternal care and tenderness, till they are capable of providing for themselves.

THE Hen, equally devoid of fidelity and attachment with the Cock, when he meets and engages with a rival, stands an unconcerned spectator of the conflict, and readily receives the embraces of the conqueror.

THE Cock, when opposed to a Bird of Prey, is timorous and cowardly; but, when in opposition to one of his own species, he is naturally valiant, seldom leaving his antagonist until he is killed or taken from him; many shameful instances of which are too frequently exhibited in the different cockpits of the metropolis.

THIS Class includes also the Turkey, Guinea Hen, Pheasant, Bustard, Grouse, Partridge, and Quail; but,

as their several propensities are not so particularly distinguishable as the preceding, we shall content ourselves with describing them in their proper places.

MOST of the Birds of this Class are remarkable for the whiteness and purity of their flesh, as well as for their bulk. They have strong bills to pick up their food, which principally consists of grain and worms, and short concave wings, which render them slow in flight.





T H E C O C K .

OF all birds, the Cock seems to have been the first reclaimed from the forest, to gratify the luxury and amusement of Man. This bird, in its domestic state, undergoes many variations. In Japan, there is a species of this fowl, which seems to be covered with hair instead of

of feathers. These varieties show the length of time they must have been under the dominion of Man; the departure from their original characteristic arising from the mixture of breeds, brought from different countries, which have been allowed to corrupt, without improving the stock. That the Cock was originally imported from Persia, is generally acknowledged. It has been, however, so long in this country, that, amongst the ancient Britons, it was one of the forbidden foods.

FROM the very great length of time this bird has been resident amongst us, we should be apt to doubt whether it was natural to any other country, was it not sometimes to be found in the islands of the Indian ocean, where it still retains its wild, and natural liberty.

ARISTOPHANES calls it the Persian Bird, in order to show the country where it is produced.

THE Cock is a very gallant bird, and will fight with his own species, especially for the possession of his hens, with amazing courage and perseverance.

To the bravery of this bird, even Princes themselves, in different parts of the world, have, to their shame be it spoken, owed a principal part of their amusement. Heathens might have fallen into this error; but that a race of people, calling themselves Christians, who are stiled the patrons of compassion and humanity, should take a delight in setting these inoffensive birds to destroy each other, can only be attributed to a barbarous propensity in human nature, which we cannot but lament.

EXCLUSIVE of this, there two other species of Cocks, called the Hamburgh and Bantam Cocks; the latter of which is well known and distinguished in this country, by its diminutive size, and feathered legs.





THE PEACOCK.

THE Italians have observed, not unaptly, that this bird has the plumage of an angel, the voice of a demon, and the appetite of a thief. They were originally from India, and are still found in vast flocks in the islands of Ceylon and Java. The beauty of the Peacock deprived

it

it first of its liberty; which proves to demonstration, that beauty is not confined to the destruction of the human species. So early as in the time of Solomon, according to the tenth chapter of the First Book of Kings, Apes and Peacocks are found among the articles that were imported from Tarshish. They were so much esteemed by the Greeks, that a pair of them was reckoned worth upwards of thirty pounds sterling. When first introduced into Greece, they were made a public exhibition. Hortensius, the orator, was the first who served them up as an entertainment for the table. They were afterwards considered the choicest of viands, and one of the greatest ornaments of the feast: but their palatable fame soon declined, as may be observed by the conduct of Francis I. who served them up in their plumage, by way of ornament, not as a dainty.

To describe the Peacock as concisely as possible, we have only to observe, that the head, neck, and beginning of the breast, are of a deep shining blue: on the crown, is a tuft of green feathers; and the tail, which may be said to vie in splendour with the rainbow, (the colours
being

being so beautifully intermixed) they display with all the seeming vanity of a conceited beauty. The gold, chestnut, green, and blue of the eyes, are so happily disposed, that they form the finest harmony, and most beautiful contrast of colour, that can possibly be conceived. The bird himself is so sensible of this superiority of plumage, which certainly exceeds every thing of the kind in Nature's works, that he is never so proud as when he exhibits this unrivalled work of the Divine Artist, to whom he is indebted for his form and existence.





THE PHEASANT.

THE plumage of this bird is so beautiful, that many esteem it next in rank to the Peacock. Cræsus, King of Lydia, when seated on his throne, arrayed in all the splendour of the East, asked Solon, if he had ever seen any thing so fine? To which the Philosopher replied, that,

that, after having seen a Pheasant, no other finery could astonish him.

ALTHOUGH the Pheasant is, certainly, a most beautiful and elegant bird, yet there are many others, as well as the Peacock, which can vie with it in plumage. Its chief beauties are, in the eyes, which are yellow, surrounded with scarlet, and spotted with black; black feathers, intermingled with a glossy purple, adorn the fore part of the head; while the top of the head, and the upper part of the neck, are tinged with a darkish, shining green: the back, sides, breast, and shoulders, are of a black colour, changing to purple, according to the situation of the spectator, under which purple is a transverse streak of a gold colour.

THE tail is about eighteen inches long; the legs, feet, and toes, are of a horn colour; and two of the toes are connected by a membrane.

THIS bird is not only beautiful to the eye, but extremely delicate to the taste. But, as if it disdained the
commerce

commerce of Man, it has left him, to take shelter in the woods and forests; to which unlimited freedom may be attributed the exquisite flavour of its flesh.



THE GOLDEN PHEASANT OF CHINA.

THIS bird, which is said to excel all the rest in beauty, is so prolific, that, when in its wild state, it will lay twenty eggs, and upwards, being double the number they lay when domesticated. The Pheasant, of all wild birds, is most easily shot.

BESIDES those already mentioned, there are, the Horned-Indian, Red China, White China, Peacock, and Brazilian Pheasants.





THE BUSTARD,

IS the largest native land bird of Britain; the male generally weighing twenty-five pounds. It is about nine feet broad, and four feet long. The head and neck are of an ash colour, and the back is barred transversely with black, bright, and rust colour; the greater quill feathers are black;

black; those on the belly are white; the tail, which consists of twenty feathers, has broad red and black stripes; and the legs are of a dusky hue.

THE female is about half the size of the male. They were formerly much more numerous than at present; but the increased cultivation of the country, added to the extreme delicacy of its flesh, has caused a great decrease of the species. Another circumstance, equally unfavourable to this bird, is its amazing size, which renders it so unwieldy and slow in flight, as to render it almost impossible to escape the aim of the sportsman.

BUSTARDS are principally found on Salisbury Plains, Newmarket and Royston Heaths, Dorsetshire Uplands, and those of Marsh or Lothian, in Scotland. They run very fast; and, although slow in flight, will, when on the wing, continue their progress, without resting, for several miles. It is with such difficulty they take flight, that they are very frequently run down by Greyhounds. They seldom wander above twenty or thirty miles from their haunts. They live on berries, which grow on the heaths,
and

and on earth-worms, that are found on the Downs before the sun rises.

As a security against drought, Nature has furnished the male with a pouch, that will contain near seven quarts of water, with which, it is supposed, they accommodate and supply the female while sitting, or the young, until they can fly.

IT lives about fifteen years, but cannot be domesticated from the want of a sufficient supply of the food which they delight in, which they can only obtain in their natural state.

THERE are two other species of this bird, which are called the Indian Bustard and Little Bustard.





BIRDS of the PIE KIND.

THIS Class of Birds, though not formed for war, delight in mischief, and are perpetually harrassing other birds, without the least apparent enmity; and includes all that noisy, restless, chattering tribe, from the Raven to the Woodpecker, which hover about our habitations, and make free with the fruits of our industry.

THOUGH they contribute the least of any Birds to the pleasures or necessities of Man, they are as remarkable for instinct, as for their capacity to receive instruction; cunning and archness are peculiar to the whole tribe. They have hoarse voices, slender bodies, and a facility of flight, which baffles the pursuit of all the Rapacious Kind. Of this Class, we select the following, as most deserving our attention.

THE



T H E T O U C A N ,

WHICH in size and shape resembles a Jack-daw, has a remarkable large head, to support an enormous bill, which, from the angles of the mouth to the point, extends six inches and a half in length, and upwards of two inches in breadth, in the broadest part, not much thicker than

than parchment. Some naturalists have thought, but erroneously, that the Toucan had no nostrils; this mistake, in all probability, originated from their being placed in the upper part of the bill, and, consequently, nearly covered with feathers.

BETWEEN the white on the breast, and the black on the belly, are a number of red feathers, most beautifully formed in the shape of a crescent, with the horns pointing upwards. The toes are disposed in the same manner as those of the Parrot, two before and two behind.

THE Toucan is so easily tamed, that it will hatch and rear its young in houses. Its chief food is pepper, which it is said to devour like a glutton. Pozzo, who bred one of these birds, says, that it resembles a Magpie, both in voice and motion. Naturalists seem to think, that the Toucan uses its tongue to all those purposes for which other birds use their bills. This naturally accounts for the thinness of the beak, which seems only calculated as a sheath for the tongue, which is very large and strong.

THIS bird inhabits only the warm climates of South America, where it is much esteemed for the delicacy of its flesh, and beauty of plumage. The feathers of the breast are particularly admired by the Indians, who pluck them from this part of the skin, and, when dry, glue them to their cheeks, which they reckon an irresistible addition to female beauty.

WHEN we contemplate the Bird Creation, we cannot consider without amazement, how variously Nature has formed their bills, wings, feet, and bodies, according to their different wants and peculiarities, occasioned either by situation or disposition; a more striking instance of which cannot be adduced than in the bird just described.





THE GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER.

THIS bird is about nine inches long, sixteen inches in breadth, and two ounces three quarters in weight. The bill is of a black horn colour, and the forehead pale buff; the crown of the head is of a glossy black, and the hind part is marked with a deep rich crimson spot; the cheeks

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are white, bounded beneath by a black line, which passes from each corner of the mouth, and surrounds the hind part of the head; the neck is encircled with black; the throat and breast are of a yellowish white; the back, rump, coverts of the tail, and lesser coverts of the wings, are black. The webs of the black quill feathers are elegantly marked with round white spots. The four middle feathers of the tail are black; the next are tipped with dirty yellow; and the ends of the two outermost are black. The legs are of a red colour.

THE colours of the female are the same as in the male, except the crimson spot on the head.



THE GREEN WOODPECKER.

OF this bird there are many kinds and varieties, forming large colonies, in the forests of almost every part of the world. The wisdom of Providence, in the admirable formation of creatures according to their respective natures,

natures, cannot be better exemplified than in the birds of this genus.

WOODPECKERS, feeding entirely upon insects, and their principal action being necessarily that of climbing up and down the trunks or branches of trees, have a long slender tongue, armed with a sharp bony end, barbed on each side, which, with the assistance of a curious apparatus of muscles, they dart to a great depth into the clefts of the bark, from whence they draw out the lurking insects.

When this bird discovers a rotten, hollow tree, it cries aloud, which alarms the insect colony, and puts them in confusion; by which means it is the better enabled to get at the prey. By thus destroying these insects, which are found sometimes on trees not entirely decayed, it should seem as if Nature had formed this bird for the express purpose of cleansing such trees, as they are generally observed to thrive and flourish, after they have left them. They are likewise very useful in destroying ants, on which they feed, as well as on wood-worms and insects.

To take ants, they adopt the following curious stratagem: they dart their red tongues into the ant-hill, which the ants, from the resemblance, supposing to be their usual prey, settle upon it in myriads, which is no sooner done than they withdraw their tongues, and devour them.

THE Green Woodpecker is about thirteen inches long, twenty-one inches in breadth, and weighs six ounces and a half. The bill is hard, strong, and shaped like a wedge. Dr. Derham says it has a neat ridge running along the top, which seems as if it was designed by an artist, both for strength and beauty. The back, neck, and lesser coverts of the wings, are green, and the rump is of a pale yellow.

To these may be added, the Lesser Spotted, and Guinea Woodpeckers.



THE BIRD OF PARADISE.

ACCORDING to some naturalists, there are nine different sorts of this bird; but Mr. Edwards describes only the three following; viz. The Greater Bird of Paradise, the King of the Birds of Paradise, and the Golden Bird of Paradise.

THE Bird of Paradise, as described by Moregrave, is about the size of a Swallow. The feathers about the beak are as soft as silk, green and brown above, and black below; the upper part of the neck is of a gold colour, but lower down, it is gold, mixed with green; the long feathers on the sides, near the rife, are of a gold colour, and the other parts are of a whitish yellow.

THE King of the Birds of Paradise, mentioned by Clufius, is the least of the species.

THE Golden Bird of Paradise, has a gold-coloured neck and beak; the feet and toes are yellow; breast and back pale orange colour; and the large feathers on the wings and tail, are of a deep orange colour.

THE idea that these birds have no feet, is proved to be an error by Mr. Ray, who says, their feet are neither small nor weak, but large and long, armed with crooked talons, like birds of prey.

THE great beauty and variety displayed in every part of the Creation, continually affords, to the contemplative mind,

mind, fresh instances of the power, wisdom, and goodness, of the Divine and Almighty Architect.

THE Bird of Paradise, which is a native of the Molucca Islands, exceeds every other bird of the Pie Kind in beauty; a proof, that those groves which produce the richest spices, produce also the finest birds. The inhabitants, sensible of the superiority of these birds, call them, by way of pre-eminence, God's Birds.

THEY migrate with their King (which is superior both in size and plumage) about August, when the stormy season begins, and return when it is over.

THERE are two other Birds of Paradise; one of which is found in the island of Ceylon, but has never yet been described; the other is called the Pied Bird of Paradise, has a blackish bill, like a Duck, and a tail nearly as long as long as a Magpie.



T H E C U C K O O .

T H E note of this bird is known to all the world ; but its history and nature remain yet undiscovered. Some naturalists have asserted, that it devours its parent, changing its nature with the season, when it becomes a Sparrow-hawk. But these fables are now sufficiently refuted.

It,

It, however, still remains a secret where it resides, and how it subsists in winter.

THE claws and bill of the Cuckoo are much weaker than those of other rapacious birds. It is distinguished from all others, by its note, and the round prominent nostrils on the surface of the bill. The head, the upper part of the body, and the wings, are beautifully striped with tawny-colour and transparent black; the legs are very short, clothed with feathers down to the feet; and it has a large mouth, the inside of which is yellowish.

THIS bird is the harbinger of spring, at which time it returns, to glad the husbandman with its wonted note, as a signal that Nature now resumes her vernal beauties. The note, which is a call to Love, is used only by the male, and continues no longer than the pairing season.

THE young are generally nursed by a Water-Wagtail or Hedge Sparrow, their parents always unnaturally deserting them.

THE note of the Cuckoo is pleasant though uniform; and owes its power of pleasing to that association of ideas which frequently render things agreeable, that would, otherwise, not be so in themselves. Were we to hear the Cuckoo on the approach of winter, we should think it a most lamentable noise; but, hearing it as we do, at the approach of spring, we cannot avoid thinking it the most agreeable, from its being attached to all those enjoyments with which we know Nature is then teeming for our accommodation.

It is about fourteen inches in length, twenty-five in breadth, and weighs five ounces, little more or less.





BIRDS of the SPARROW KIND.

DESCENDING from the larger to the smaller kinds, we come to this Class of Birds, which live chiefly in the neighbourhood of Man, whom they seem to consider as their best friend, filling his groves and fields with harmony, that elevates his heart to share their raptures. All other Birds are either mute or screaming; and it is only this diminutive tribe that have voices equal to their beauty. Great Birds seem to dread the vicinity of Man, while these alone remain in the neighbourhood of cultivation, warbling in hedge-rows, or mixing with the poultry, in the farm-yard.

THEY are remarkably brave; often fighting until one of them yields up its life with the victory. When young,

they are fed upon worms and insects; but, when grown up, they feed principally upon grain. As they devour great swarms of pernicious vermin, which destroy the root before the vegetable is grown, they are particularly useful to the farmer and gardener.

THE best vocal performers of this musical tribe, are, the Nightingale, Thrush, Blackbird, Lark, Redbreast, Blackcap, Wren, Canary-bird, Linnet, Goldfinch, Bullfinch, Brambling, Yellow-hammer, and Fiskin.

THIS Class being too extensive to be fully described in so small a volume, we shall select only a few of the most curious, beginning with the Blackbird. But, in order to compensate for our brevity in this place, we shall annex, at the end of the volume, a particular account of the treatment and food, proper for the different Song-birds peculiar to this island, which, we doubt not, will be a very useful reference to those who delight in keeping these entertaining little warblers.



THE BLACKBIRD.

THIS bird, which is the Herald that ushers in the welcome Spring, seems, by its melody, to awaken the rest of the feathered creation from their lethargy, and allure them to the pleasures of the approaching season. They generally breed about the latter end of March, or beginning

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of

April, laying four or five eggs, which are of a blueish green colour, and irregularly marked with dusky spots. Their nests are constructed, in a very ingenious manner, with moss, twigs, and fibres of roots, strongly cemented; the insides being plaistered with clay, and covered with hair, and other soft materials. They usually build in hedges, near the ground, and before the foliage expands, which, added to the magnitude of the nest, renders it easy to be discovered.

THE plumage of the male, when at full age, which is a year, is of a fine deep black, while the bill, as well as the edges of the eyelids, are of a beautiful bright yellow; but before they attain this age, the bill is dusky, and the plumage of a rusty black.

THEY continue singing till the moulting season draws near, when they naturally desist; they will, however, when they have done moulting, resume their note for a short time previous to the winter.



THE STARLING.

THE Stare, or Starling, may be distinguished from the rest of the Sparrow tribe, by the variegation of its feathers, which in some lights show a glossy green, and in others, a beautiful purple. The feathers of the head, neck, and upper part of the breast, are black, interspersed

perfed with feathers of different colours, which caufes it to vary, as above described.

STARLINGS affemble in vaft flocks during winter, and feed upon worms and insects; but, on the approach of fpring, they meet in the fields, as if to confult; during this time, which lafts feveral days, they feem to abftain from all kind of nourifhment. Some few breed here, but they emigrate in general.

SUCH is the capacity of this bird to receive inftruction, that it will imitate the human voice to the greateft nicety. Sterne, in his Sentimental Journey, gives a very entertaining account of one of thefe birds which he met with on his travels.

IF a Starling is taken when about ten days old, and properly taught, it is a very valuable bird, and will fetch frequently five or fix guineas.



THE GREAT TITMOUSE.

THIS bird, which is also called the Ox-Eye, is about six inches in length, nine inches broad, and in weight half an ounce. The bill is black, straight, and about half an inch long; the tongue is broad, ending in four filaments; the head and throat are black, cheeks white, back,

back, and coverts of the wings, green; quill-feathers dusky, tipped with blue and white; the lesser coverts are blue, the greater ones tipped with white; the tail, which is about two inches and a half in length, is black, edged with blue.

ALTHOUGH these birds occasionally visit our gardens, yet they chiefly inhabit the woods, where they build their nests in hollow trees, laying nine or ten eggs. Their food consists, principally, of insects, which they find in great numbers in the trees. Thus we perceive, that birds are formed, not only to delight the ear and please the eye, but also to serve us, by destroying those vermin, which do incredible mischief to our rustic possessions. As we can have no enjoyment, however, without some mixture of alloy, the Titmouse frequently injures our fruit-gardens, by destroying the tender buds.

LIKE the Woodpecker, it is continually running up and down the trunks of trees, searching for food.



THE LARGE-CRESTED HUMMING-BIRD.

THERE is a great variety in this species of birds, which, although the smallest of the feathered tribe, are by far the most beautiful, inoffensive, and delightful. They are from the size of the Wren to a Humble Bee. What a beautiful contrast does this little bird afford, in the

the scale of Creation, when presented by the side of the largest Offspring, forming the two extremes ! and how can we sufficiently admire the workmanship of Providence, in having created such varieties for our use, entertainment, and assistance !

IN America they swarm like Bees, ranging from flower to flower, extracting the sweets ; in which they seem to connect the insect and bird creation together.

THE head of this beautiful bird is adorned with a crest, green at bottom, and bright gold-colour at top ; the body, and under the wings, is brown and green intermixed, and glossed with a beautiful red ; the bill is black, straight, and slender ; the eyes black and sparkling.

THEY are called Humming Birds, from the noise produced by the motion of their wings. Their nests, about half the size of a hen's egg, are curiously suspended at the end of the twigs of an orange or pomgranate tree.

THERE are also, the Larger Humming Bird, Long-tailed Black-capped Humming Bird, Little Humming Bird with crooked Bill, Green, and Ash-coloured Humming Birds.



THE H O O P O E.

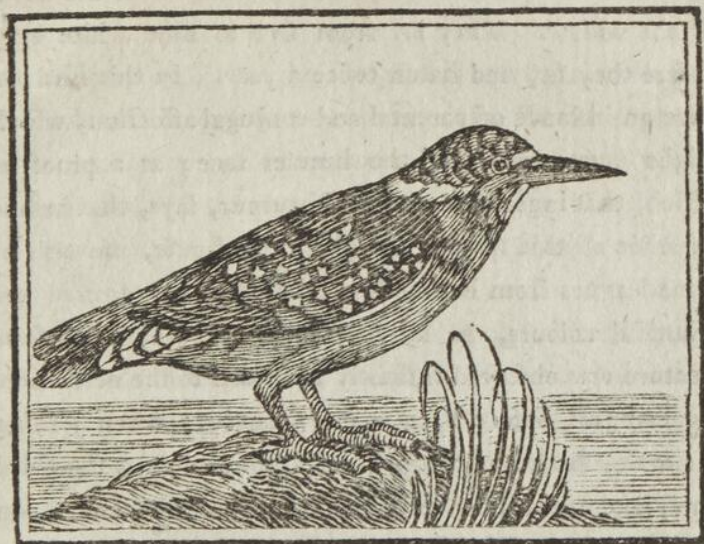
THIS very handsome feathered visitant, according to the ingenious Mr. Walcot, in his Synopsis, just published in quarto, answers the following very curious and interesting description :

ON

ON the top of the head is a crest, consisting of a double row of feathers, the highest of which are about two inches in length, of a pale orange colour, with black ends: the neck is of a pale reddish brown, the upper parts of which are crossed with broad bars of black and white; the lesser coverts of the wings are of a light brown, and the lower parts white; the tail, which is white, consists of ten black feathers, which are marked with a white crescent; the legs are black. It is twelve inches in length, and nineteen inches in breadth.

A few of these beautiful birds migrate to this country in the summer, and feed on insects. It is said to make no nest, but to lay about seven ash-coloured eggs, in the holes of trees, walls, or on the ground.





THE KING FISHER.

THIS beautiful bird, which inhabits almost every country, may be said to vie, in elegance of plumage, with the Parrot, the Peacock, or even the splendid shadings of the Humming Bird. It is larger than the Swallow; mostly frequents the banks of rivers, and makes its nest at the
root

root of some decayed tree, which it lines with the down of the willow. They lay from five to nine white eggs before they sit, and hatch twice a year. In this bird we have an instance of parental and conjugal affection, which might shame many of the human race; as a proof of which, that ingenious author, Reaumur, says, that he had a female of this species brought to his house, upwards of three leagues from her nest. After having admired her beautiful colours, he let her fly again, when the fond creature was observed instantly to return to the nest where she had just before been made a captive; when joining her mate, she began again to lay, though it was the third time, and the season very far advanced. She had seven eggs each time. The fidelity of the male exceeds even that of the Turtle. While the hen is sitting, and during the helpless state of her callous brood, he supplies her with fish, which he takes with the greatest expertness, and in large quantities; insomuch, that at this season, she, contrary to most other birds, is fat, and in fine feather.

SEVERAL writers have confounded the Halcyon with the King Fisher. The Halcyon, it is said, breeds in May,
in

in the banks of streams, near the sea; after the first hatch is reared, it returns to lay again in the same nest. Pliny and Aristotle say, that the Halcyon is common in the seas of Sicily; that it sits only a few days, in the depth of winter, in a nest that swims on the sea; during which time, it is said, the mariner may sail with the greatest safety. But another author, with more probability, says, that the little Halcyon bird is found on the shores and rocks up the Mediterranean, near Sicily; that, at the latter end of summer, she builds a nest, with fish bones and sea weeds, so curious and impregnable, as to swim and hatch her young on the sea, which at that time is particularly calm and serene. This has given rise to a proverbial saying, when we allude to any particular period of our lives, wherein we have experienced uninterrupted happiness, which are called *Halcyon days*.





BIRDS of the CRANE KIND.

THIS Class is inferior to every other in building their nests, being less curious than those of the Sparrow Kind; the method they use to obtain their food, is also less ingenious than those of the Falcon Kind; the Pie Kind excel them in cunning; while the Poultry Kind are more prolific. None of this kind being, therefore, protected by Man, they lead a precarious life in fens and marshes, where they feed upon fish and insects; for which purpose Nature has provided them with long necks, to enable them to dive for their prey, and long legs, to keep their bodies dry and clean.

Those only which feed on insects are eatable.



THE STORK.

THIS bird is similar to the Crane, but more remarkable, both in figure and disposition. The feathers are white and brown; and the nails are flat, like those of a Man. It makes no other noise, but that of clacking its under bill against the upper. Contrary to the general disposition

position of Nature, it has as much, if not more, filial affection towards its parents, than paternal affection for its offspring; for, when the old ones are so far advanced in years, as to be incapable of providing for themselves, the young ones will serve them with food in the hour of necessity, cover and cherish them with their wings, and even carry them on their backs to a great distance. What an example is this of filial piety! Who can observe this affectionate bird, feeding and defending its aged and helpless parent, till Death relieves them from their anxiety, without exclaiming, *O ye children, imitate this amiable example; let not a simple bird upbraid and condemn you; but, on the contrary, let it stimulate you to the discharge of this most pleasing duty; let it recall to your mind the anxious days and sleepless nights they have endured, in nursing, protecting, and promoting your welfare; and you will not fail to imitate the Stork, in soothing their decline of life, with the lenients of your love, care, obedience, and gratitude.*



T H E H E R O N .

THIS bird may be distinguished from the Crane and Stork, by its smaller size; by the bill, which is much longer in proportion; and also by the middle claw of each foot, which are toothed like a saw, to enable it seize, and more securely hold, its slippery prey.

So

So numerous is the tribe of Herons, that Brisson has enumerated forty-seven different sorts. Though excessively voracious, they are always lean and hungry, weighing no more than about three pounds and a half each, notwithstanding they measure three feet in length, and five in breadth. Although it is most formidably armed with bill and claws, it is so cowardly as to fly from a Sparrow-Hawk. Fish and frogs are its chief food; but it cannot endure a long abstinence. Its voracity is such, that Willoughby says, one of them will destroy 15,000 carp in six months. It lives among pools and marshes, where it wades after its prey; and builds in the highest trees, or on cliffs hanging over the sea.

THE flesh of this bird, which is now thought disgusting, was formerly much esteemed. What an instance is this of the capricious taste of Man!

KEYSLER says, that the Heron very frequently lives to the age of sixty years.



THE EGRET, OR GREAT WHITE HERON.

THE length of this bird, from the bill to the claws, is four feet and a half, and to the end of the tail, three feet and a quarter; and the weight about two pounds and a half. It is entirely white, which distinguishes it from the common Heron, which is rather larger; has a longer tail, and no crest; and is seldom seen in England.

THE Lesser White Heron only differs in size, and by having a crest.

THE Little White Heron, according to Catesby, has a crooked red bill, with a yellow iris on the eyes, a white body, and green feet.

To the above may also be added, the Yellow and Green Heron, found near Marseilles; the bill of which is black above, yellow below, and about three inches long; the iris, as well as that part of the neck next the chin, are white; but the rest of the neck, top of the head, the breast, and belly, are variegated with brown lines; the feathers on the back are black; the wings are yellowish, spotted with black; and the tail is stuck with feathers greatly resembling hair. The thighs are of an ash colour; and the feet are black, with yellow claws.





THE LITTLE, OR BRAZIL BITTERN.

THIS bird is smaller than the Common Pigeon, although the neck is seven inches in length. The skin, at the base of the bill, is yellowish; the upper part of the head is of a steel colour, interspersed with pale brown feathers; the neck, breast, and belly, are whitish; and

the back is a mixture of black and brown; the long feathers of the wings are of a greenish hue, with a white spot at each extremity: all the other parts of this bird are beautifully variegated with black, brown, and ash colour. The bill, which is long, straight, and sharp, is black at the point; the iris of the eyes is of a gold colour; and the tail is so short, that it does not extend beyond the wings.

To the above may be added, of the same species, the Common Bittern, the North American Bittern, and the Small Bittern.





THE SPOON-BILL, OR SHOVELLER.

WHO can behold this strange and singular bird, without adoring the wisdom of the Great Creator of the Universe ! The bill of this bird alone, is a convincing proof of the great care of Providence to preserve his creatures. This bill is about eight inches long, and of equal breadth

and flatness from one end to the other; but, contrary to that of all other birds, instead of being widest at the base, and narrowest at the point, it is exactly the reverse, swelling into a broad rounded end, like the bowl of a spoon, from which it derives its name. It is, however, not hollow, like a spoon; but, whether closed or open, it has a very singular appearance.

THIS bird is as white as snow, and, from its cleanliness, looks wonderfully pretty. It is common in Europe, and frequents the waters.

THE bill is most peculiarly formed for the necessities of this bird; as feeding principally on frogs, which, by their cunning and activity, avoid the birds with pointed bills, the Spoon-bill, by being notched and toothed all round, is better adapted, not only to take these animals, but also to prevent their escape after they are caught.

THE Spoon-bill of America, is of a delightful rose-colour, or beautiful crimson.



THE FLAMINGO.

THIS bird is another instance of the care of the Creator, in providing for every creature according to their respective necessities. Thus we see the Flamingo, which lives about the shallow shores of the sea, and the mouths of rivers, provided with a most uncommon length of

I 4

neck

neck and legs; the latter of which are so long, that, when walking in the water, it appears as if swimming; and the head, which is almost constantly under water, in search of food, makes the bird seem no larger than a Goose, the body being then only perceptible. But how great is the astonishment of the spectator, when, on coming out of the water, it presents itself, in height of legs and neck, like an Ostrich! Its height is not only superior to that of any other bird, but its beauty is scarcely to be equalled. The body is snow-white; the wings are of so bright a scarlet, as to dazzle the sight; and the long feathers are of the deepest black: the beak is blue, except at the tip, which is black, and so singular in shape, as to appear broken: the legs and thighs, which are not much thicker than a man's finger, are about two feet eight inches in length; and the neck nearly three feet more; the toes are webbed, like those of the Duck, which enables it to swim for the preservation of its life, which would be otherwise sometimes in danger, by the sudden rise of wind and water, while standing to a great depth, in search of prey, by carrying it out to sea, where it might perish for want of subsistence.

A DISH

A DISH of Flamingos' tongues, Dampier says, is a feast for an Emperor.

FLAMINGOS always go in flocks, and are found in vast numbers in Canada. Their nests are formed of mud, resembling very much our chimney pots. When the female lays her eggs, she sits astride the nest, with her legs hanging in the water.

“THOSE who admire,” says a learned writer, “the wonderful means, by which the God of Nature has contrived, that those animals, which He has endued with a lesser principle than reason, should provide themselves with food, and secure their existence, during a life in which they are liable to innumerable accidents, would add a great deal to the measure of their surpris^e, did they comprehend the variety of those means.”





THE AVOSETTA, OR SCOOPER.

THE Avosetta is distinguished from all other birds, by the bill, which turns up instead of down, being about three inches and a half in length, compressed very thin, and of a flexible substance, resembling whalebone. The tongue is short; the head, and greatest part of the body,
is

is black: the tail consists of twelve white feathers; the legs are very long, of a fine blue, and featherless higher than the knee; the webs are dusky, and very deeply indented.

NATURE has so peculiarly formed the bill of this bird, to enable it to scoop out of the sand the worms and insects, on which it feeds. It lays but two eggs, which are about the size of those of the Pigeon, of a white colour, tinged with green, and spotted with black.

THESE birds are frequently seen, in the winter, on the eastern shores of the kingdom; in Gloucestershire, at the mouth of the Severn; and sometimes on the lakes of Shropshire. They have a lively chirping note, and very frequently wade in the waters.





T H E C U R L E W.

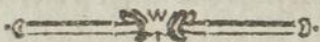
THIS bird is, in length, from the top of the bill to the end of the claws, twenty-nine inches; and the breadth, between the extreme points of the wings, when extended, is three feet four inches: the bill, which is nearly six inches long, is narrow, a little crooked, and of a dark
brown

brown colour; the legs are long, bare, and of a dusky blue, with a thick membrane meeting at the first joint, and marked with irregular brown spots.

THIS bird is of a greyish colour, and the flesh very rank and fishy, notwithstanding the English proverb in its favour. They frequent our coasts in large flocks, in the winter time, walking on the sands, in search of their prey, which consists of crabs, and other marine insects. In the summer, they retire to the mountainous parts of the country, where they pair and breed.

THE Lesser Curlew, called also the Wimbrel, greatly resembles this bird; the chief difference being in the size, this weighing only twelve ounces, whereas the other weighs twenty-seven ounces.





THE WOODCOCK.

THIS bird, which is smaller than a Partridge, is fourteen inches in length, twenty-six inches broad, and about twelve ounces in weight. It has a straight bill, which is three inches long, the upper one falling a little over the under at the tip; it is of a dusky colour towards the end, and reddish at the base; the forehead is ash-colour, and a black line extends from the bill to the eyes; the head, neck, back, and coverts of the wings, are irregularly barred with red, black, grey, and ash-colour; but, on the head, the black is most predominant. The eggs are long, of a pale red, with spots and clouds of a deeper colour. The flesh is reckoned a great delicacy.

IN the summer, they inhabit the Alps of Norway, Sweden, and other northern parts of Europe; but, when the frost commences, they retire to France, Germany, Italy, and Great Britain.



Of WATER FOWL in General.

THE principal distinction between Land and Water Fowl, is, that the toes of the latter are webbed for swimming. Those who observe the feet or toes of a Duck, will easily conceive how admirably they are formed to move in that watery element, to which they are mostly destined. What Man performs by art, when he closes his fingers in swimming, the Water Fowl is supplied by Nature to perform. The toes are so contrived, that, as they strike backward, the broadest hollow surface beats the water; but, as they draw them in again, their front surface contracts, so as not to impede their progressive motion.

THE legs of the Water Fowl are generally very short, which causes them to walk with much difficulty; they, therefore, seldom breed far from the sides of waters, where they usually resort.

THOSE of this Class, which have long legs, are ranked among the Crane Kind; such as the Flamingo, Avosetta, &c. which, although their feet are webbed for swimming, they seldom make use of for that purpose; a proof that their webbed feet are given them for the purpose of preventing their sinking in the muddy shores, which they frequent in search of their prey.

WE shall select a few of those most worthy the notice of our readers, taking the Pelican as the first subject for description.





THE PELICAN.

TRAVELLERS, and those who are fond of the marvellous, have related strange accounts of this bird. The tale respecting the care of its young, has been so generally received, as to be frequently adduced as an example for Man to imitate.

THIS

THIS bird is so unwieldy, as to be only adapted for the water; the beak, which is peculiarly uncommon, is about a foot long, and as thick as the fleshy part of a child's arm, very sharp at the point, and of a blue and yellow colour; in other respects, it differs very little from the Swan: the lower chap is made of two long flat ribs, with a rough membrane connected to both, in form of a bag, which, extending to the throat, holds a considerable quantity of food, which supplies it in times of scarcity. Feeding her young from this bag, has so much the appearance of feeding them with their own blood, that it caused this fabulous opinion to be propagated, and made the Pelican an emblem of paternal, as the Stork had before been chosen, more justly, of filial affection.

THE voice of this bird is harsh and dissonant; some compare it to the braying of an ass, while others say it resembles the voice of a man grievously complaining. David compares his groaning to the Pelican of the wilderness, and the Owl of the desert.

IT lives sixty or seventy years.



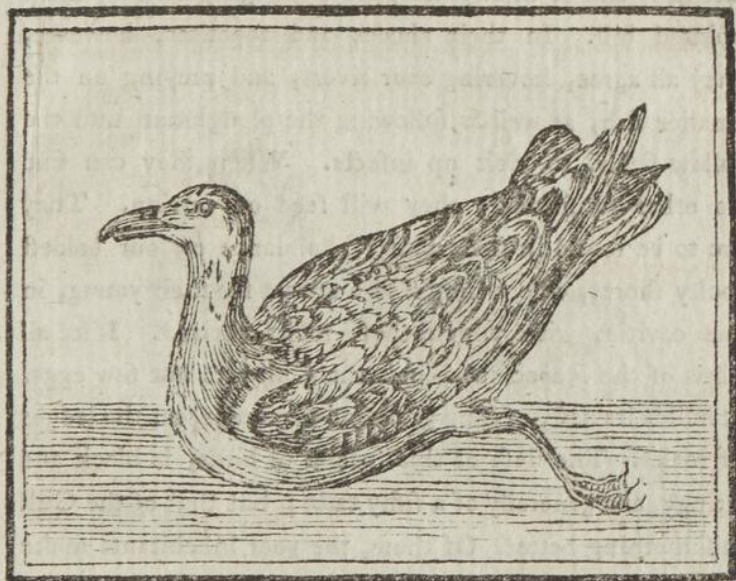
T H E F U L M A R.

THIS bird is found in the island of St. Kilda, where it supplies the inhabitants with oil for their lamps, down for their beds, a balsam for their wounds, a delicacy for their tables, and a medicine for their diseases. It likewise denotes a change of wind.

THIS

THIS bird is larger than the common Gull; the bill is very strong, yellow, and hooked at the end. Instead of a black toe, it has a kind of straight span. It feeds on the blubber of fat Whales, and on sorrel. It will leap and prey on a newly caught Whale, even while alive; and is so voracious, as to eat until it is obliged, through repletion, to disgorge its food.

WHALES are frequently discovered by means of these birds, which collect together in vast numbers, and follow them, in hopes of prey, as Sharks follow ships that have disease on board, with the same expectation. The blubber on which they feed is what furnishes them with the oil above mentioned. They seem, therefore, as if created for the purpose of supplying the inhabitants of that part of the globe with a commodity so essential to light them in those regions, which could not otherwise be cheered from the wintry gloom.



THE GULL AND PETREL.

OF these birds, the larger sort are most shy, and live at the greatest distance, while the smaller sort reside wherever they can take their prey. They are principally distinguished by an angular knob on the lower chap of the bill, which the Petrels have not. The Sea Swallow, which

which is also of this species, has a straight, slender, sharp pointed bill. In their abodes and appetites, however, they all agree, hovering over rivers, and preying on the smaller fish, as well as following the ploughman into the fallow fields, to pick up insects. When they can find no other subsistence, they will feed on carrion. They are to be found in the greatest abundance on our boldest rocky shores, where they find a retreat for their young, in the cavities with which those rocks abound. Like all birds of the Rapacious Kind, the Gull lays but few eggs. It builds its nest, of long grass and sea weeds, on the ledges of rocks. The flesh of this species of birds, is black and stringy, and generally of a fishy taste; but that of the Gull is something better. Of these, the poor inhabitants make their scanty and wretched meals. Strangers to almost any other food, salted Gull proves to them the greatest dainty. Thus we perceive, that necessity can even create a comfort, by giving a relish to the coarsest diet.



THE TAME DUCK.

THIS is the most easily reared of all our domestic birds, the very instinct of the young leading them directly to their favourite element; nay, even when hatched by a Hen, which sometimes happens, they seek the water, contrary to every admonition of the foster-parent.

OF the Tame Duck, there are no less than ten different varieties; but Brisson reckons upwards of twenty sorts of the Wild Duck. The principal distinction between the species is, that the Tame Duck has black, and the Wild Duck, yellow feet. The common species of Tame Duck take their origin from the Mallard.

Ducks require very little charge in keeping, living chiefly on lost corn, snails, &c. for which reason they are very useful in gardens. When they sit, they require no attendance, except sprinkling a little barley, or refuse corn near them, which will prevent their straying.

OF the Duck species, there are also the Eider, Wild, Velvet, Tufted, Pin-tail, Grey-headed, White-bellied, Barbary, Madagascar, and Bahama Ducks.

WILD Ducks are taken in decoys, and in such vast quantities, that upwards of £.30,000. worth of Wild Ducks, Wigeon, and Teal, have been sent up, in one season, from the decoys in the neighbourhood of Wainfleet only.



A

DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT
OF THE
ENGLISH SONG BIRDS;

With PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS for Chusing,
Breeding, Feeding, and Teaching them to Sing.

ABERDIVINE.---This bird resembles, in size and colour, the Grey Canary. The cock is distinguished by a black spot on his head, and a little black under the throat; the hen is greyer, with a spotted breast and belly. They are both familiar, and easily taken.

FOOD.---They love white seed; but are mostly fed as Linnets and Goldfinches.

BLACK-

BLACKBIRD.---For the description, see p. 207.

FOOD.---When young, feed them every two hours with fresh lean meat, minced very small, and mixed with bread, a little moistened. When older, they may be fed with any raw, or dressed meat, if not stale or sour. They should have water, to wash and prune their feathers.

BULLFINCH.---This bird is in great estimation for its beautiful plumage, as well as singing, and also for its familiarity and tractability. It may be taught to pipe and talk, while perching on the finger, which renders it very engaging. To distinguish the cock from the hen, pull a few feathers from the breast, at about three weeks old, when those of the cock will be of a curious red, while those of the hen will be pale brown.

IN order to teach this bird to pipe with propriety, a flagelet or bird organ should be made use of, while they are in the nest, and unfledged; which, if properly attended to, they will retain a tune with the greatest exactness. Although the hen is not so beautiful in plumage as the cock, yet, with attention, she will very frequently pipe, and talk equally well with the male.

FOOD.

FOOD.---When young, give them rape-feed, soaked in clear water for eight or ten hours, then scald, strain, and bruise it, and mix it with an equal quantity of white bread, soaked in water, boiled with a little milk; it must be made fresh every day, to prevent its turning sour, and spoiling the birds. When they can feed themselves, give them rape and canary-feed, mixing most rape, as for Linnets. If they droop, put a blade of saffron in their water.

CANARY BIRD. This being the most estimable bird for its note, among those who delight in singing birds, although of foreign origin, we could not avoid inserting a short account of it.

IT derives its name from the Canary Isles, its original native country. Of the several colours, those which have white tails are the least valued. The mottled birds are those which are chiefly brought into this country by the Germans. The cocks are of a lively yellowish colour, the hens of a dusky white.

To choose a good Canary, observe that he stands bold, straight, and upright, upon his perch; let his looks be
sprightly,

sprightly, full of life and vigour; let him look freely at you, while looking at him, without fluttering or beating himself.

FOOD.—Give him, now and then, maw-feed, in which he principally delights, and sometimes a bit of loaf-sugar between the wires of his cage; in warm weather, a little feedy chick-weed or groundsel. The fine leaf of a young radish, heart of a cabbage, cofs, Silesia lettuce, or endive, will serve to vary their food, which, being thus changed, will prevent his loss of appetite and sickness, caused by keeping him on the same diet.

CHAFFINCH. The cock Chaffinch, at about ten or twelve days old, has much white in his wings and pinions, with a reddish breast, and all his feathers higher, and more brilliantly coloured, than those of the hen. An old cock has a blueish head, reddish brown back, mixed with green and ash colour, fine purple red breast, and a white belly. The breast of the hen is grey.

This bird is very docile and familiar, and may be taught, with attention, any tune; if put in company with

with other birds it will imitate their notes. The cock will couple with the Canary-bird.

FOOD.—Rape and Canary-feed.

GOLD-FINCH. This bird, which is greatly admired for song and beauty, is the finest feathered of all cage birds, and so long-lived, that Willoughby mentions one to have lived twenty-three years. The cock is distinguished by a curious scarlet circle round the fore part of his head, or basis of the bill.

FOOD.—When young, give them white bread, soaked in clean water, to a very thick consistence. To this, add a little flour of canary-feed. They should be fed at least every two hours, but very sparingly, and with fresh food every day. In about a month, you may wean them gradually from this soft food, by laying some canary feed beside, until they can be brought to live on it entirely.

GREEN-FINCH, Green-Linnet, or Green-Bird, is of a hardy nature, and rather larger than the Chaffinch.

The

The head and back of the cock are green, edged with grey. The middle of the back inclining to chestnut. The fore part of the head, neck, breast, quite down the belly and rump, are of a yellow green.

FOOD.—The same as the Chaffinch.

COMMON LINNET. This bird is said to excel all the small English birds in singing. The note is curious; and he can imitate the song of any other bird. The cock has a browner back than the hen, and more white in its wings. When the wings are full grown, the second, third, or fourth feather, is white up to the quill.

FOOD.—They should be fed with seed gathered from the land where they are taken, mixed with a little bruised hemp-feed. When caged, give them a small quantity of canary, and a few corns of hemp. If drooping, a little lettuce-feed, and a small piece of liquorice or saffron put into their water. Chick-weed is also a great restorative to the Linnet.

NIGHTINGALE.

NIGHTINGALE. The Nightingale is reckoned the best of song-birds. In grown birds, the cock is distinguished by its deeper and higher colours. In nestlings, when he has eaten, he gets upon the perch, and begins to tune to himself.

FOOD.—Give him, three times a week, two or three meal-worms, or spiders, to purge him. When his fat declines, give him a little saffron in his water. Figs, chopped small among their meat, will recover their flesh when very thin.

RED-POLE. This bird is very prettily feathered; the head and breast of the cock being of a fine red, and much more brilliant than those of the hen. It is not much esteemed for its singing, although it has rather an agreeable note. Its nest never being found in England, denotes it to be a foreign bird.

FOOD.—The same as the Linnet.

RED-START. The cock is a very beautiful bird. The tail, rump, and breast, are of a fine red. The back, neck, and hind part of the head, are of a lead colour,

colour. The throat, and fore part of the head, are jet black, and it has a white mark on the pole. He is distinguished mostly from his black head. He doubles his notes very finely, and will sing in the night as well as the day.

FOOD.—The same as the Nightingale.

ROBIN-RED-BREAST. This bird, which is naturally solitary, will, when impelled by cold, become daring, familiar, and sociable. The red on the breast of the cock is deeper, and extends farther upon the head than that of the hens. His legs are also darker, and he has generally a few hairs on each side his bill.

FOOD.—The same as the Wood-lark, or Nightingale, but be careful not to overcharge their stomachs. Never let them want fresh water, and, once a week, put in it a blade of saffron.

SKY-LARK. At about a month old, the cock may be known by his notes, which, though low, are distinctly altered. In old birds, the cock is the lightest coloured,

coloured, has a browner back, a yellower throat and breast, and a white belly.

FOOD.—Give them egg, bread, and bruised hemp-seed, with red sand at the bottom of the cage, and they will grow tame in two or three days. The nestlings should be fed, every two hours, with white bread and milk, mixed with one third part of rape-feed, soaked, boiled, and well bruised. A sheep's heart, or other fresh meat, minced small, is good food for them; and now and then, they should have a hard egg chopped very fine, an equal quantity of hemp-seed bruised, and a little bread grated among it. Give them a turf of three-leaved grass twice a week to perch upon.

SPARROW. The Hedge Sparrow may be tamed so as to fly about the house, without any apprehension of its straying. It will take the song of the best singing-birds, if properly placed with them. The cock has a long, slender, dusky coloured bill. The upper side of his body is black, mixed with a dirty red, and the breast is black.

FOOD.—When taken, feed them, at twelve days old, with minced fresh meat and bread, or Woodlark's meat. When brought up, give them hemp and canary. If drooping, mix it with a little oatmeal.

STARLING. Having described the Starling in page 209 of this volume, we have only to observe that their food is the same as that of the Blackbird, or Woodlark.

THRUSH OR TRHOSTLE. The Thrush has a great variety of note, and sings nine months in the year. The feathers of the cock differ from those of the hen, in beauty, sleekness, and brilliancy.

FOOD.—When full grown, feed them with fresh meat, raw, or dressed, with bread. This agrees best with them, though they may be brought to feed entirely on bread or hemp-feed. They should have a fresh pan of water twice a week. When cramped, put fern or clean straw on the bottom of the cage, and feed them, as they lie, with Nightingale's meat.

TITLARK. This bird is handsomely shaped, and excelled by very few. It has no remarkable song, unless
the

the cock is particularly excellent, when it will sing like a Canary-bird. The nestling cock has more yellow, especially under the throat, legs, and soles of the feet, than the hen.

TOM-TIT, otherwife Joe Bent, is a very pleasing bird, and has a pretty song.

FOOD.---They will thrive with bread and cheefe, and, when grown up, with hemp-feed. But they relish the Woodlark's food the best.

TWITE. This bird, which is supposed to be a native of Germany, visits this island in winter. It is very brisk, and always singing. It is gentle, familiar, and is hung among other birds, to provoke them to sing. The cock is known by a red spot on the rump.

FOOD.---Rape and canary; but they like the latter best.

WOODLARK. The Woodlark is esteemed the best song-bird in the kingdom. It sings nine months in the year. The cock is known by its size and song.

FOOD.

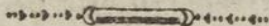
FOOD.---Hard egg, chopped and minced, with crumbs of bread, a little hemp and maw-feed. One egg is enough for six Larks. Give them sometimes minced meat, as other birds, but no turf in their cage.

WREN. This is the smallest of song-birds, being only about four inches long, from the top of the bill to the end of the tail. It has, however, a very loud song. The cock has a dark brown back and head, with a white breast and bill; the tail and wings are of a bright yellow, variegated with dark lines.

FOOD.--The same as the Nightingale; but, when sick, two or three flies, or spiders.

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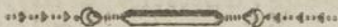
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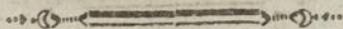
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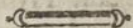
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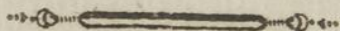
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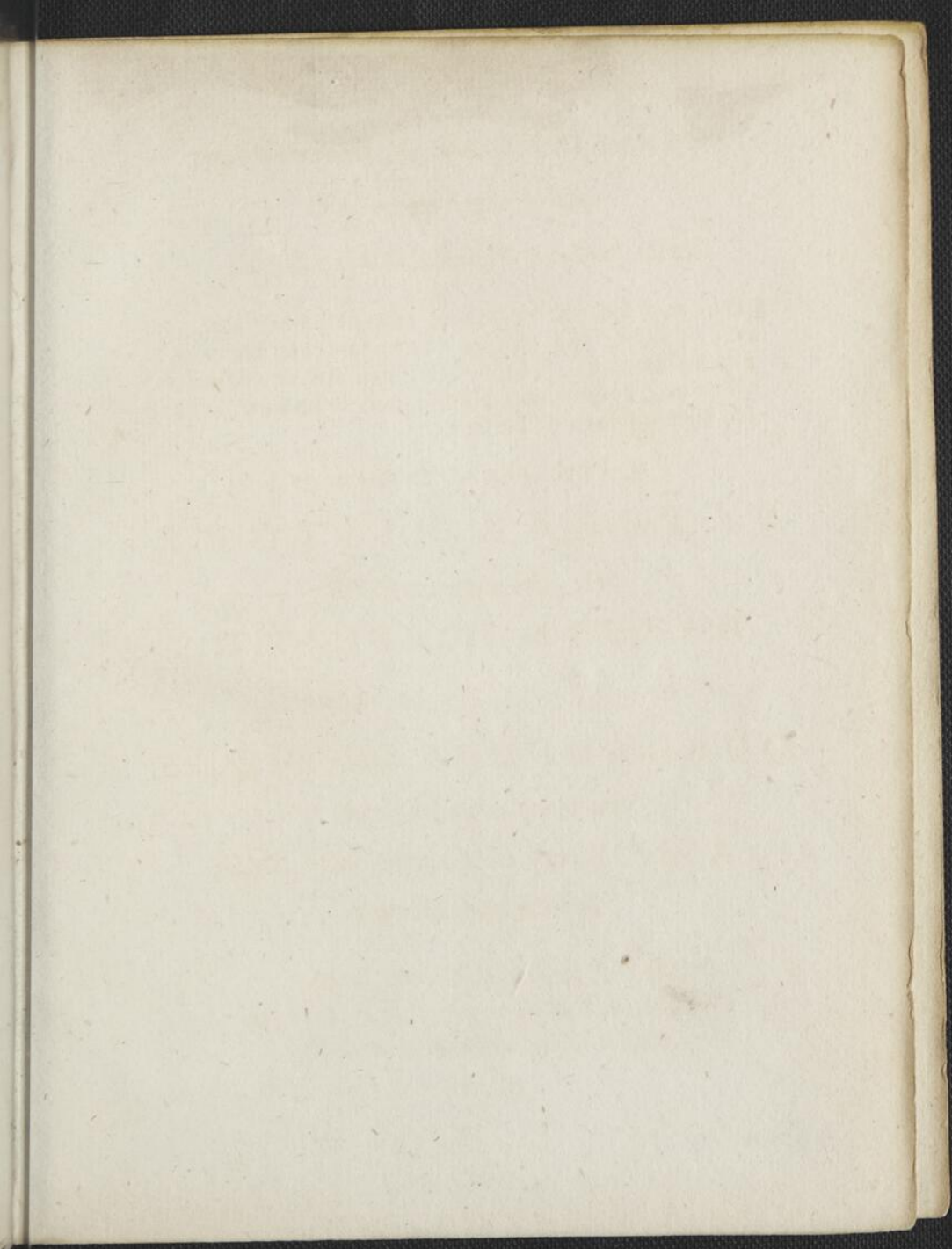
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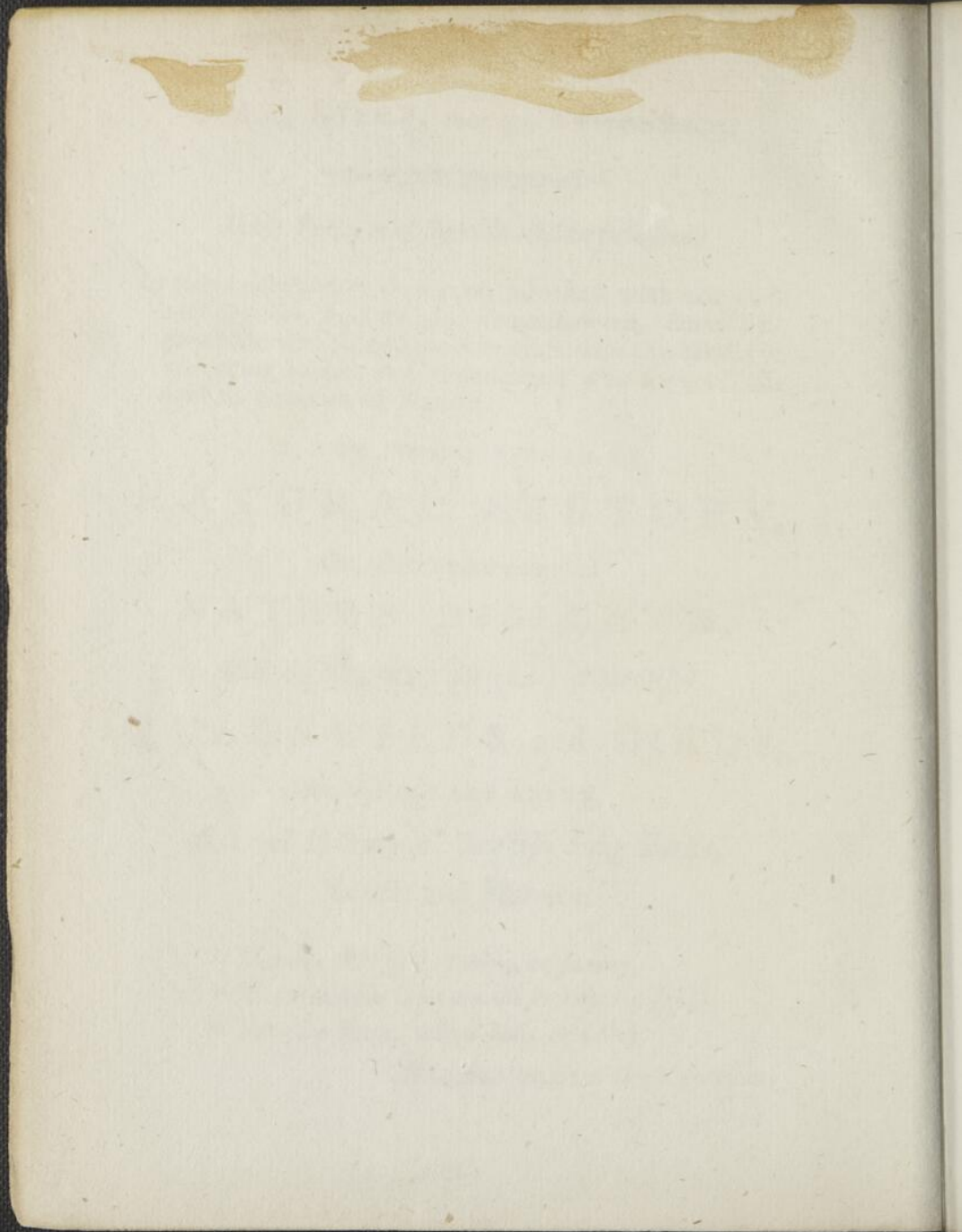
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- 66 Who can this field of miracles survey,*
66 And not with GALEN all in rapture say,
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BLACKMORE on the Creation.





L.C. 111. 3



