

of the same species, of a larger size, and consequently with a greater appetite, and provided with more terrible arms for satisfying it. It appears even, that the eagle of Astracan, which is uniformly denominated *ferox*, in the nomenclatures of ornithology, has less courage than other eagles, and that its ferocity consists merely in a gluttony not easily appeased, for Gmelin assures us that it will feed with equal avidity upon the most infected carcasses.

The membrane of the beak of this bird is green: its head and neck are a greyish brown, mixed with a whitish tint. Its plumage is generally brown; but its back, belly, and rump, are white variegated with spots of a chesnut colour: the twenty-six feathers of which the wings are composed, have the top black, the under part white, and grey towards the tips: the twelve feathers of the tail, all of an equal length, are white beneath, and brown above, with four bands or rings of a still lighter brown: the beak is a leaden black colour; the eye-lashes are blue, the iris yellow, and the nails pointed.

It was in the environs of Astracan that Gmelin discovered this species of eagle,