

or the royal eagle. Its total length, measuring from the beak to the tail, is three feet and a half: its beak is three inches long, and about fifteen lines broad at its base; and one inch, nine lines in thickness: the overtures of the nostrils are five lines and a half in length, and two in breadth: they are placed about thirteen lines from the anterior angle of the eye, which is about an inch from one angle to the other. The tail is one foot four inches and a half in length, and it exceeds the wings when folded, four inches and a half: the foot is six inches: the middle toe, without the claw, measures three inches, and the hind toe, two inches two lines: the length of the middle talon measured in a straight line, is one inch and a half, and that of the hind one, two inches and a half.

The form of this bird approaches much more to the eagle than to any other: the beak is straight at its insertion, and the hind talon is the longest, which is one of the principal characteristics of eagles: the flesh, however, between the eye and the beak is entirely bare of feathers, and only sprinkled with a few black hairs: and the feathers of the feet do not descend so low as the talons, which they do in the feet of eagles: these are
the