

the other are to be found in a Portuguese manuscript addressed to M. de la Condamine, by Don Laurent Alvarez Roxo de Potflitz, *grand chantre* of the cathedral of Pora and correspondent of the Academy of Sciences at Paris.

*Ouira ouassou* or *vyrá vassu* signifies in the language of Brazil, *great bird*.\* It is in fact, of a considerable size, being double that of the eagle. Its head is large, and ornamented with a tuft in the form of a helmet: its beak is long: its eyes are clear, lively, and piercing: the apertures of the nostrils are large, and furnished with hairs on the side next the beak: the neck is big: the feet are bare, scaly, and reddish, the same as the toes: the talons are black and crooked.

The feathers of the back, the wings, and the tail, are generally brown spotted with black, and variegated with whitish or almost yellow lines: the belly is covered with white feathers, very soft to the touch, and not less beautiful than those of the egret.

The *ouira ouassou* is a very beautiful bird; its plumage is agreeably varied, and its attitudes are full of fierceness and dignity. His  
motions

\* The Portuguese of Brazil know this bird under the denomination of *gavian real* or *gavito real*, viz. *the royal bird of prey*.