

apertures of the ears above and in front, and projects over the neck in a straight line.

Besides this border, which ornaments and defends the ears, the oricou has some other characteristics which easily distinguish it. Its crop is very prominent, and covered with a fine, silky, shining down, and which has a strong resemblance to the fur of a quadruped. A semi-collar, large and crisped, covers the upper part of the neck: all the lower part of the body is covered with long stiff feathers, straight and curved at the end like a sabre. A very fine down embellishes the legs and one half of the foot; and the same down spreads over all the under part of the body, and it may be perceived between the stiff bristly feathers. The feet and the toes are very large, and covered with great scales: the talons are large and short, and not much curved.

This is one of the largest and finest species of the vulture: its breadth from tip to tip of the wings when extended, is more than ten feet, and its height exceeds three feet.

The naked skin of the head and one half of the neck is of a red flesh colour, slightly tinged with a violet blue towards the beak, and white near the ears: the eyes are sur-