spicuous even in the formation of its nest: he rather places than builds it between the rocks, or even on the ground, and it merely consists of some dried leaves disposed without care and without foresight. The female lays two eggs, which are of a dirty white colour.\*

## THE GYPAETES.

BETWEEN the powerful and generous eagle and the cowardly and disgusting vulture, there exists a race of large carnivorous birds, whose nature and whose external form approximate them both to one and the other. This family of voracious and destructive animals, which forms the shade between these two species, is sufficiently remarkable not to be confounded with them as they have been hitherto. Modern naturalists have every reason to separate them, and to make them a dsitinct genus; a separation which the nature even of these birds indicates, and to which they have given the name of gypaëte, com-H VOL. VI. posed

\* See Natural History of Chili, by the Abbé Molina.