
THE FALCON.

THE SINGING FALCON.

IT is difficult to unite the idea of a singing bird with that of a bird of prey. The harsh and lingering cries of want, the piercing clamours of ferocity constitute all the harmony of birds of this class. And however much these accents may be prolonged, they are never any thing else but mournful and discordant sounds, which disgust the ear and make the mind melancholy. The species of falcon which Levaillant has discovered in the southern countries of Africa, and which he has denominated the "singing falcon" possesses says he "an organ with which he alone, exclusively of all other birds of prey, seems to be gifted, if we except the *vocifer*." But this *vociferous eagle*, utters, with effort, loud cries, braying intonations without inflexion, without any thing agreeable, and which are reduced, according to Levaillant himself, to