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THE KOBER.

THIS is a species of falcon called by the Russians Kober and derbnischock. It approaches to nocturnal birds from its habit of flying and hunting during the evening and night, a circumstance doubtless owing to the sensibility of its eyes: so that this bird. which has all the external characteristics of the falcon, differs from it nevertheless by discrepancies of formation yet more decisive, and which pronounce it a nocturnal bird. It is one of those numerous beings, which mere systematists cannot comprehend, and of which nature has availed herself to connect mutually the animals which she has varied with an admirable profusion.

This species is common in Ingria, all Russia, and in Siberia, where it has been observed by various travellers well skilled in natural history. It is most frequently in the environs of Lake Baikal.

The prey of these birds consists principally vol. vi. K of