

very fine small fibrous roots, of which it forms a semi-spherical building of one inch and a half in thickness: the interior of the nest is furnished with a profusion of feathers and down; and the female deposits on this soft bed from three to five white eggs, spotted with a dirty brown, which assumes a blackish tinge towards the large end of the egg. The young ones, when hatched, are entirely naked.

It is said that the butcher bird does not exist above four or five years; but one of my friends preserved one a much longer time: he nourished it with boiled and hashed meat.

This species is found at all times in the mountains of Lorraine: they may be seen perched at the extremities of the highest and most isolated branches of trees and bushes; and this position is necessary to the bird in order that he may rise into the air, or precipitate himself without obstacle upon his prey.

The butcher bird is of a clear cinereous grey colour on the top of the head, the hind part of the neck, and all the upper part of the body; the scapulary feathers are white. On the sides of the head is a large black band, which, issuing from the corner of the mouth passes