

crooked, with the nostrils equally large; the basis of the upper mandible is surrounded with stiff hairs. The entire head, the neck, the back, and the covert feathers of the wings are of a brilliant black, with a slight shade of blue, purple, and green, and which perpetually vary according to the reflection of the rays of light. The breast is of a cinereous colour, dull and dark; the whole of the belly, the legs, and the covert feathers of the under part of the tail are white; the legs, the feet, and the claws are of a blackish brown.

Some naturalists, and among those Mr. Edwards, have doubted whether this bird ought to be classed with the butcher bird, or with the pie species, for it appears to have an equal affinity with both of them.

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#### THE RED TAIL.\*

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THIS East Indian bird is about the same size as the grey butcher bird of Europe: the  
beak

\* This bird is to be found in almost the whole of India.