

species. This bird is one of these animals: during a whole day it places itself in silence upon a little eminence of earth in cultivated fields. There, his eye always upon the watch, attentive to the smallest motion, he waits for those small destructive quadrupeds on which he feeds. Hence, the colonists of the Cape of Good Hope, where these birds are found, acknowledge their services by the preservation of their lives. The male and female, always in company, approach towards the habitations when the day closes in: they fly in a circular manner in the air, uttering shrill and harsh cries, something similar to the gloomy yelping of the wolf-jackall. Hence its denomination. After having thus described many circles in the air, they alight on the hedges of enclosures where cattle are feeding. It is in the midst of the thickest bushes that they construct their nest with moss and bits of straw. They line it with feathers and wool, on which they deposit two or four eggs.

This bird is very sedentary, very cowardly, and very timid, and yet it is common in the whole of southern Africa, particularly near cultivated spots. Its size is about that of the common buzzard, though more solid: the upper part of the body is covered with a dark  
brown