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THE PIOUSQUEN.

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IF we consider, as a characteristical and indispensable mark of the bustard, the having only three toes on the feet, then the bird, which is called in Peru *piouquen*, cannot be considered as one, for it has four large toes, three in front, and the fourth, which is a little more elevated, behind. But, if we examine this bird under a general point of view, it will be found to possess all the prevailing characters of the bustard, and we shall not be able to refuse it a place among the birds of this species.

Such, at least, is the opinion of Molina, who, in his natural history of Chili, has not hesitated to present the *piouquen* as a species of bustard, although it has the feet divided into four toes. It is true, indeed, that this author has, more than once, advanced things rather bold, in natural history: but until further observations shall produce further knowledge, the *piouquen* must hold its present station.

This bird is larger than the common bustard