

were carried to Brazil by the Spaniards, and he gives a strong proof in support of this assertion, viz. the Brazilians had, at first, an invincible disgust at the flesh of hens, and they regarded the eggs as a certain poison; nevertheless the greater part of the birds at Guiana, are the same as those at Brazil, and it is not probable that the birds, found in the former country, should not have spread, in the course of time, into the latter, and where, of course, they would have been known by the inhabitants. Hence, the cocks of which M. Sonnini speaks, do not belong to that species of bird; or if they do, they derive their origin from those domestic ones which have been carried thither, and have afterwards become wild*.

“ The observations of M. Sonnini, therefore cannot, any more than those of the preceding writers mentioned, determine our ideas as to the country whence the cock and hen drew their origin. Am I, in this respect,

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* It is impossible to suppose that the cocks and hens of Guiana, have originally proceeded from the domestic ones carried thither, and some of which had escaped. In fact, the former are heard only in the interior of the country, and at a great distance from all inhabited spots.