

lieve in the existence of wild hens in the desert forests of Guiana. This bird, which I saw there myself, and which had all the attributes of the hen, the note of the cock, which I heard in the midst of these vast solitudes, the opinion so rife among the nations of their existence, all incline me to believe that the cock and hen are actually to be found there in a state of nature. During a second voyage which I made to Guiana, many persons confirmed to me, what I had already strong reasons for presuming. I will mention, in preference, a planter who had collected a vast deal of local knowledge, M. Salines, major of militia in the colony of Cayenne. He told me that in an excursion, which he made in the commencement of the year 1776, in the great wood of Guiana, he met, and had sufficient time to observe, a bird exactly similar to a hen in shape, and similar to that which I had myself seen, with the exception of a reddish colour, not far from the brown of the other, which tinged the plumage. Another testimony likewise, that of a traveller, who visited Guiana after me, may be adduced in support of these facts already certain. Captain Stedman observed, that the Indians, in the interior of Dutch Guiana, brought up a small species  
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