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THE BLACK HOCCO; OR, THE HOCCO OF  
FRENCH GUIANA\*.

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WITH a simple, but elegant appearance, with peaceable, but social manners, the *hocco* of *Guiana* offers also a healthy and savoury nourishment, an easy and abundant resource for the tables of the colonists of South America, and, above all, for the subsistence of travellers who penetrate into the immense forests of this part of the world. These good qualities render his history sufficiently interesting to make us eager to know more of this bird than has hitherto been communicated. Not but that ornithologists have spoken of it; but, in copying each other successively, they have, in fact, added nothing to the accounts given by Marcgrave, Laët, Hernandez, and Fernandez;

\* In this article Sonnini throws some light upon the *Hocco* properly so called, under which head Guenau de Montbeillard, the coadjutor of the illustrious Buffon, in his history of the birds, ranges a great variety of species, which he considers as differing only in name. See the plate accompanying this volume. *Trans.*