

zon river, and which is never seen, or at least very rarely, in French Guiana. The true female of the black hocco is but a little degree smaller than the male; the tail is not so long; the tuft is not so beautiful, it is less elevated, and it is of a less lustrous black; the beak is grey at its end, and the feathers of the stomach terminated by a straight, grey line; in every other respect it is like the male.

The hoccoes of Guiana live in numerous troops in the vast forests, with which this country is almost entirely covered; but they have nothing wild except their residence. Mildness and tranquillity form their character; they do not seem to fear, nor even to know danger; little anxious, apparently, about the preservation of their own existence, they do not fly from those circumstances that occasion its loss. I have often found myself in the midst of considerable flocks of these peaceable birds, which my presence did not seem to intimidate. This kind of indifference renders it easy to destroy them. Many of them may be killed, even with a musquet, without their making any other efforts to escape than simply flying from tree to tree.

Such are these birds in the vast solitudes where, having nothing to fear, they are naturally