

roof in their vicinity. They are not delicate in their choice of food ; every thing agrees with them ; they eat indifferently maize, rice, bread, cassavi, bananas, potatoes, and all sorts of fruits. Flocks of them may be easily kept. The colonists of Guiana, however, had not made this attempt at the period of my voyages to this country. It would be, however, a complete union of the useful and agreeable ; for, independently of the beauty of these birds, their flesh is white, and of an excellent flavour, and the care which is shewn them in a domestic state, renders it more succulent. The tuft with which their head is furnished, would provide a pretty accession to the dress of the female sex, who might form from it embellishments at once simple and elegant. I have seen the inhabitants of Cayenne seeking for these tufts ; they buy them of the hunters, who are careful, immediately they kill the bird, to take off this natural ornament.