

it is not altogether useless. The fishermen of this country cut it in pieces, and make use of it as an excellent bait for catching a large species of fish, which they call *torche*, and which is a kind of mullet.

THE PARRAKA*.

THIS bird, which should be written *parra-koua*, and not *parraka*, as Barrère has done, pronounces its own name distinctly. It has a considerable affinity with the marail, only it is somewhat less; otherwise it has the same appearance, and the same habits; the conformation of the beak is the same, as well as that of the feet and toes, which are also reddish: under the throat may be seen the same naked red place; it is divided lengthways by a straight band of hard, black, and thick hairs: the feathers of the head, which are longer than usual, form a kind of crest, which the bird bristles up when it is affected in any manner; this

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crest

* See the plate accompanying this volume.