

while he gradually moves forward, but never so much at a time as to take away the hope of being finally caught. He accompanies this with certain motions, as if he purposely endeavoured to brave his enemy, and to mock him; each time that he places himself on the point of a rock, he turns quickly round to front the hunter, then he elevates himself upon his feet, spreads out his tail, and beats his wings, at the same time uttering a piercing cry. If his pursuer hides himself in order to surprise him, he makes a considerable circuit, and then places himself in such a manner that he can watch all his motions; and if at last the hunter can approach near enough to fire, he must wait till he takes flight, for, having his eyes fixed upon the marksman, his sight is so correct and piercing that he plunges to the earth the moment the flint strikes against the lock, and thus escapes the shot. The only method of overcoming the cunning of this bird, and of taking a sure and effective aim, is to hide the musquet in the bushes, and to shew both your hands empty, walking about without seeming to take any notice of the bird; emboldened by this, he will become less mistrustful, and if the moment be seized when he appears to have the least precaution