

them, on their under side, and towards their insertion, a white spot, which gradually increases in size; the more external covert feathers on the under part of the wings are black and white, and the others striped with yellow and black. The tail is black, and terminated with white; the first quill feather on each side, which is also the shortest, is white for one half of its length; there is less upon the others, and the white place diminishes by degrees until the two middle quill feathers, which have only a small spot of this colour at their extremity. The beak is black. The feet and the toes are yellowish, and the claws are blackish.

*Dimensions.* Total length, nine inches; of the beak, fifteen lines; of the tail, three inches, three lines and a half; of the wings, three inches; of the tarsus one inch; of the middle and the hind toe, ten lines.

This bird is an inhabitant of those vast watery spots, of those extensive spaces, those singular mixtures of earth and water, which, in different parts, form the irregular soil of French Guiana. Though it is very common there, yet it is not seen in troops; it remains isolated, or, at most, in couples; its flight is short and heavy; it utters a dull, monotonous kind of whistling.