

this complicated beak, upon which are perforated the oblong apertures of the nostrils.

The tongue is entire, and rather thick; the gullet is large; the head is smaller in proportion than that of the small guillemot; and the whole bird is not very large.

Under the eyes, which are small, may be seen a white stripe, and on each side of the neck, near the head, there are some silky and very fine feathers of the same colour; the head is black, as well as the top of the neck and back; but this last part is variegated with large and scattered lines of a reddish brown colour; the rump is a whitish grey; and the down which covers the whole body is cinereous. The covert and the quill feathers of the wings are of a sooty black colour; those of the tail are a common black, and the feet are a clear brown.

This species is common towards the islands at the extremity of Lapland, and particularly near the island of Matmey. During the day these birds keep at sea, and they retire, towards the approach of night, into the holes on the shore, or clefts of the rocks, where they may be easily taken by the hand; they even fix themselves on the vessels, so very thoughtless and stupid are they. Steller and Krachenninikow