

deprived of their feathers and their entrails, and cover them simply with the earth. They have observed indeed, that if, from motives of cleanliness, they have placed between the earth and the geese, branches or hay, all the provisions have become corrupted, while, on the contrary, the mere earth thrown immediately on the top of them, preserves them perfectly. These subterraneous magazines form, in winter, an ample and excellent resource for those who live in these harsh and severe countries.

This species has not the distrustful and savage nature of the wild geese of the common species; the hyperborean goose may be approached near enough to be killed with stones; the manner in which the Russians, and the Jakuts of Jana and Indigirka conduct the chase of them, proves to what a degree they are heedless and stupid.

The most favourable season for this chase is between the month of April and the end of June, because at the time when the hyperborean geese arrive, they are very thin; and in June, when they have moulted, they lose a great portion of that fat which they have acquired from abundant nutrition. Three or four hunters unite themselves, and when they have discovered a band of geese pasturing near
a river,