

interest in killing them ; their flesh is good for nothing ; the Tartars of the Crimea affirm that it is even dangerous. “ Nevertheless,” says the Baron de Tott, “ I have tasted it, and I only found it very disagreeable*.”

To the interior qualities the kasarka joins exterior graces ; it has neither the painful balanced walk, the awkward heaviness, nor the ignoble look, which belongs to its family. Its long feet permit it to advance with celerity ; its attitudes have dignity, its deportment is graceful, and its flight easy, and without noise ; its voice even is not rough or disagreeable ; it is, indeed, asserted that its tones are even pleasant, and do not offend the ear like those of the common goose.

These geese establish their nests in the clefts of rocks and in caverns ; they very seldom place them either in the holes of trees or in pits in the earth ; the female lays eight or ten white eggs, and which are larger than those of the wild duck.

* Mem. du Baron de Tott, sur les Tartares, tom. 1, p. 222. This is a positive assertion, and which destroys that of Gmelin, who says that the flesh of the Kasarka goose is very savory ; *caro sapidissima*.