OF BIRDS, FISH, &c.

THE CAGE.

THIS is a species of bird described by Molina, in his Essay on the Natural History of Chili; and it is found in the islands of the Archipelago of Chiloë. It is of the size of our domestic goose, but its neck is shorter, and its wings and its tail, which last terminates in a point, are longer. Its beak is semi-cylindrical, and furnished, at its base, with a red membrane. In this species the male is entirely white, with the exception of its beak and feet, which are yellow. The female, on the contrary, is black; many of its feathers have merely a little white like a border, and its beak and its feet are red. "I have given to this bird," says the Abbè Molina, "the name of hybride, or mulatto goose, which appears to me to express the remarkable difference between the two sexes." But Sonnini preferred the name of cage, being that which is given it by the natives of its natal country.

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