

rapidity of the current, and from the agitation of the winds; they suffer themselves to glide along with the hardly perceptible course of the stream, and when they arrive at a certain point, they take flight in order to regain the spot from whence they proceeded. Sonnini observed troops of these ducks which repeated this method days together; but among those birds, which may be exclusively called *ducks of the Nile*, as they never leave that river, he saw none of that species to which Hasselquitz has appropriated this denomination*. Forskæl, who has described various species of Egyptian ducks, makes no mention of this one. It may be doubted even whether it be really a species of duck probably it is a sort of goose, perhaps the *Egyptian goose*, to which, indeed, the brief description of Hasselquitz is sufficiently analagous, and it is well known that in the methodical style of Linnæus, the goose and the duck are confounded under the same generic denomination.

Till, however, future observation shall confirm or destroy these conjectures, we shall describe,

* See a voyage in the Levant by Hasselquitz, published by Linnæus.—*Anas nilotica*.