

fect, have them all of the same size ; he indeed observes, that in pigeons, who only lay two eggs, all the small eggs which remain in the ovarium are of the same size, and it is only the foremost two which are bigger than the rest. It is the same, he says, in cartilaginous fish, as in the thornback, who have only two eggs which increase and come to maturity, while those which remain in the ovarium are, like those in fowls, of different sizes.

He afterwards makes us an anatomical exposition of the parts necessary to generation, and observes, that in all birds the situation of the anus and vulva are contrary to the situation of those parts in other animals ; the anus being placed before and the vulva behind ;* and with respect to the cock, and all small birds, that they generate by external friction, having in fact no intermission nor real copulation ; with male ducks, geese, and ostriches, it is evidently otherwise.

Hens produce eggs without the cock, but in a very small number, and these eggs, although perfect, are unfruitful : he does not agree with the opinion of country people, that two or three days cohabitation with the cock is

* Most of these articles are taken from Aristotle.