

that of one kept in a state of domesticity in the temples; for the left shoulder has been broken and then united. It is probable that a wild bird, whose wing was broken, would die before it healed, for want of strength to pursue its prey, or power to escape from its enemies.

This skeleton enables us to determine unhesitatingly the character and proportions of the bird: we clearly see that it was in every respect a real curlew, rather larger than that of Europe, but with its beak thicker and shorter. We subjoin a comparative table of the dimensions of these two birds, taken for the ibis, from the skeleton of the mummy of Thebes, and for the curlew, from a skeleton which was formerly in our anatomical galleries. We have added those of the parts of the ibises of Saccara which we have been enabled to obtain entire.