

pear in any other individuals otherwise precisely similar.

This first individual came from the collection of the stadtholder, and we do not know its native country. The late M. Desmoulins, assistant naturalist at the museum, who had seen two others, said that they came from Senegal. One of them must have been brought by M. Geoffroy de Ville-neuve. But we shall presently find that Bruce(1) found this species in Ethiopia, where it is called *Abou Hannés* (Father John;) and that Savigny saw it in abundance in Lower Egypt, where it is called *Abou Mengel* (Father of the Sickle.) It is probable that the moderns will not take the assertion of the ancients literally, that the ibis never quitted its own country without perishing.(2)

This assertion would besides be as contrary to the *tantalus ibis* as to our curlew; for the individuals which we have in Europe came from Senegal. It was thence that M. Geoffroy de Villeneuve brought that now in the museum of natural history; it is even much more rare in Egypt than our curlew, since no one after Perrault mentions having seen it there, or received one from thence.

An individual without the reddish hue, but otherwise entirely similar to the first, was brought home by M. de Labillardière, after his voyage in Australasia with M. d'Entrecasteaux.

We have since learnt that this sort of *numenius* has, when young, the head and neck furnished with feathers on those parts which, as they advance in age, become denuded, and that the scapularies are less expanded, and of a paler and duller black. It is in

(1) Bruce, loc. cit.; and Savigny, Mem. sur l'Ibis, p. 12.

(2) Ælian, lib. 2, cap. xxxviii.