and the rational doubt of Ray, Seba gives the figure of an animal, under the name of the taiibi; and says, at the same time, that this taiibi is the same animal as the tlaquatzin of Hernandes; this is adding error upon error; for even according to Seba, his taiibi, which is a female, has no bag under the belly ; and Hernandes gives to his tlaquatzin this bag as a particular characteristic; consequently the tail of Seba counot be the tlaquatzin of Hernandes, as it has no pouch, nor the taiibi of Marcgrave, since it is a female; it is certainly, therefore, another animal badly designed, and badly described, to whom Seba thought proper to give the name of taiibi, and which he confounds with the tlaquatzin of Hernandes, which as we have said before, is our opossum. Brisson and Linnæus have, in regard to the taiibi, literally followed Seba; they have copied even his error in regard to the tlaquatzin of Hernandes, and both have made an equivocal species of this animal, the first under the name of philandre of Brasil, and the second under that of philander. The true tailbi of Marcgrave and Ray, is not therefore the tailbi of Seba, the philander of Linnæus, nor the Brasilian philander of Brison; nor are the two latter the *tlaquatzin* of Hernandes. The tailbi of Seba (supposing his existence)

240