

than eagles: his head is a clear blue colour: the neck white and bare, that is, covered like the head simply with a white down, with a collar of small white and stiff feathers under the neck in the form of a ruff: the iris of the eye is of a reddish yellow: the beak, and the naked skin which covers the base of it, are black: the crooked extremity of the beak is whitish: the lower part of the legs and the feet are bare, and of a lead colour: the talons are black, and neither so long nor so curved as those of the eagles: it is, besides, very remarkable for a brown spot in the form of a heart, which it bears upon the breast beneath the ruff, and this brown spot appears to be surrounded, or rather embroidered, with a straight white line. In general this bird is a hideous figure, and badly proportioned: he is even disgusting on account of a continually flowing humour from his nostrils, and the two other holes which are in his beak, and by which the saliva issues: he has a prominent crop; and when he is upon the ground he always keeps his wings extended.\* In fact,

\* The custom of keeping the wings extended belongs not only to this species, but also to the greater part of vultures; and also to some other birds of prey.