

agrees that it must have been made at Rome. Saumaise upon Solinus says nothing that relates to the present question.

As to the black ibis, which Aristotle places only near Pelusium * ; it was long thought that Belon alone had seen it†. The bird which he describes under this name is a species of curlew, to which he attributes a head similar to that of the cormorant, that is to say, apparently bald, a red beak, and feet of the same colour ; but as he does not speak of the ibis in his journey ‡, I suppose that it was only in France that he made this reference, and by comparison with mummies of the Ibis. What is certain is, that this curlew, with the beak and feet red, was not known in Egypt §, but that our green curlew of Europe (*Scolopax Falcinellus*, Linn. Pl. Enl. 819.) is seen very commonly there, that it is even more abundant than the white numenius || ; and, as it resembles it in form and size, and, further, as its plumage may appear black, it can by no means be

* Buffon, Histoire Naturelle des Oiseaux, 4to, vol. viii. p. 17.

† Belon, Nature des Oiseaux, p. 159 and 200 ; and Portraits d'Oiseaux, folio 44, vers.

‡ Observations de plusieurs singularités, &c.

§ Savigny, Memoire sur l'Ibis, p. 37,

|| Idem, ibid.