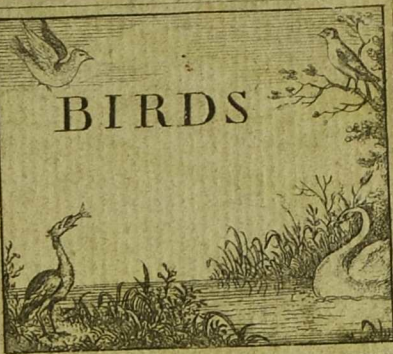
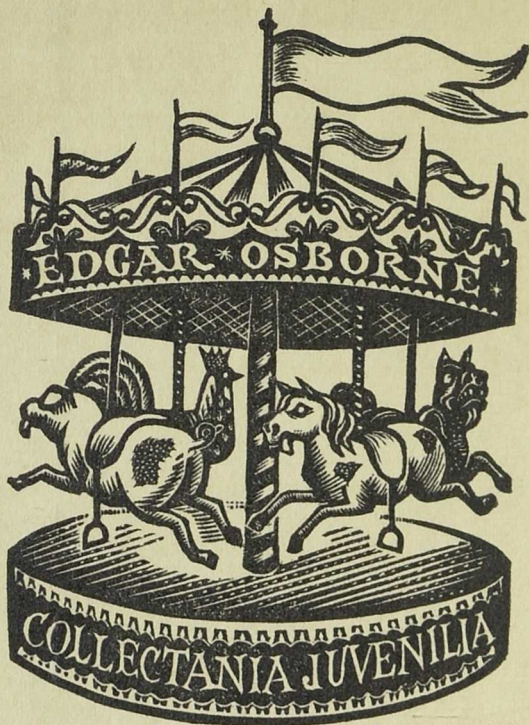


BIRDS



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VOL. 2.

BIRDS.

L O N D O N:
Printed for John Wallis,
N^o. 16, Ludgate Street,
June 12th 1801.





THE EAGLE.

THIS large and noble bird is found in various parts of Europe; it is known to breed in the mountains of Ireland, and lays three or four eggs. The general colour is deep brown, mixed with tawny on the head and neck.



THE KITE

IS common in England, and continues with us the whole year; it lays two or three eggs, of a whitish colour, spotted with pale yellow, and in general attacks small animals and birds.



THE HAWK.

THERE are many kind of hawks, which were formerly in high estimation for the sports of the field. It is a bird of prey, on which it shoots like an arrow; and mostly feeds on mice and small birds.



THE OWL.

THIS singular bird is scarcely ever seen by day, but at night it comes forth in search of its prey. Its eyes are admirably adapted to this purpose, being so formed as to see objects better in the dark than in broad daylight.



THE BUTCHER BIRD

IS chiefly found on mountains or among furz and thorny thickets; it preys on small birds, which it seizes by the throat, and fixes them on a sharp thorn, then tears them to pieces with its bill.



THE RAVEN

IS well known in all parts of the world ; it is supposed to live a century or more ; is fond of carrion and will destroy Rabbits, Ducks and Chickens ; it is rendered very tame, and sometimes will pronounce a variety of words.



THE JACKDAW

IS very common with us; they frequent churches, towers and ruins, where they build their nests and lay five or six eggs. It is taught to pronounce words, and feed on insects, grain, and pieces of meat.



THE MAGPIE

IS a lively, crafty and familiar bird; taught to pronounce words and short sentences; it is addicted to thieving and will hoard up its provisions. It lays seven or eight eggs of a pale green colour, spotted with black.



THE JAY.

THIS beautiful bird is very common in England; upon seeing the sportsman, it will give the alarm of danger by its cries, and thereby defeats him. The Jay lays five or six eggs of a greyish ash colour, mixed with green, and faintly spotted with brown.



THE STARLING.

THESE birds in winter time appear in vast flocks, and inhabit almost every climate. The female makes its nest in hollows of trees, rocks, or old walls. She lays four or five eggs of a pale greenish ash colour. The Starling is often taught to repeat short phrases.



THE BLACKBIRD

IS a solitary bird, frequenting woods and thickets ; it feeds on berries, fruits, insects and worms, and warbles earlier in the spring than other songsters ; they build their nest in bushes or low trees, and lay four or five eggs of a blueish green colour.



THE ROSE COLOURED THRUSH

IS about the size of a Starling, and but seldom seen in this country; it is more frequent in France, and in some parts of Asia very common; about Aleppo they are seen in great numbers in pursuit of the swarms of locusts. The Turks call them the locust bird.



THE CUCKOO.

THIS bird, which visits us early in the spring, is said to leave us in July; it makes no nest, lays but one egg, and that it deposits in the nest of another bird. The hedge sparrows nest is mostly preferred.



THE WOODPECKER

IS frequently seen on the ground where there are ant hills; it inserts its tongue in the holes, and draws those insects out in great abundance, on which they feed. Its eggs are of a greenish colour marked with small black spots.



THE HOOPOE

IS not a common bird with us, being seen only at uncertain periods. It is a very solitary bird, and the female is said to have two or three broods in the year. She makes no nest, but generally lays her eggs in the hollow of a tree.



THE CREEPER,

Although very common, is not seen without difficulty ; as on the appearance of any one, it hops to the opposite side of the tree : it builds its nest in the hole of a tree, and lays from 5 to 7 eggs of an ash colour, marked at the end with brown spots.



THE BULLFINCH.

THIS bird is common in most parts of Europe. They are frequently imported into this country from Germany, where they are taught to articulate several words distinctly. It lays five or six eggs of a dull blueish white with dark spots.



THE YELLOW-HAMMER

IS common in every lane and hedge throughout the country; they feed on seeds and insects. In Italy they are esteemed good eating, and fatted for the purpose. It lays four or five eggs marked with dark irregular streaks.



THE WHITE WAGTAIL.

THIS bird is often seen in England; it frequents the sides of pools and small rivulets, and feeds on insects. The nest is built on the ground, and in general their eggs are five in number; white, spotted with brown.



THE GOLDFINCH.

BEAUTIFUL plumage, melody of song, sagacity and docility, seem all united in this little bird; when kept in a cage, it will learn to draw up small buckets of water and food. It lays five white eggs, marked with deep purple colour spots.



THE SKYLARK.

COMMENCES his song very early in the morning, and rises in the air a vast height; it never perches on the trees as other birds, but is on the wing, or on the ground. It lays four or five eggs of a greyish brown, marked with darker spots.



THE FLYCATCHER

IS not very common here; they are chiefly confined to countries where swarms of insects are continually on the wing ; on which they feed. It lays four or five eggs, marked with small rusty spots.



THE NIGHTINGALE

IS more esteemed for the excellence of its song, than the beauty of its colours; it comes to us the beginning of April, and leaves us in August. The nest is mostly found in the lower part of a thick bush, and it lays four or five eggs of a greenish brown colour.



THE ROBIN REDBREAST.

WHEN winter comes on, this familiar bird approaches our houses; and feeds on the crumbs which are thrown out; in summer it repairs to the woods, where its nest is found near the ground, by the roots of trees. It lays from five to nine eggs of a dull white, with reddish spots.



THE DARTFORD WARBLER.

THIS bird is a native of France as well as of England. They feed on flies, and are commonly found among cabbages, under the leaves of which they frequently take shelter during the night.



THE BEARDED TITMOUSE

IS generally found in marshy situations where reeds grow, on the seeds of which it feeds, as well as small insects. The nest is built among willows, of the shape of a purse, and their eggs are four in number, of a reddish white with small brown spots.



THE
GOLDEN CRESTED WREN

IS the smallest bird yet discovered in the British Isles. It remains with us through the winter, frequents woods, and builds its nest in oak, fir, or yew trees; it lays six or seven eggs, which are no bigger than large peas.



THE TOM-TIT

IS a beautiful lively little bird, and seen busy in the gardens and orchards, where it destroys the caterpillars. The female builds her nest in holes of walls or trees, and lays from fourteen to twenty white eggs.



THE SWALLOW

MAKES its appearance with us early in the summer, and leaves us in autumn. It builds its nest in chimneys or under the eaves of houses. They will return to the same nest yearly if undisturbed. Both this bird and the Martin have two broods in the year.



THE PIGEON.

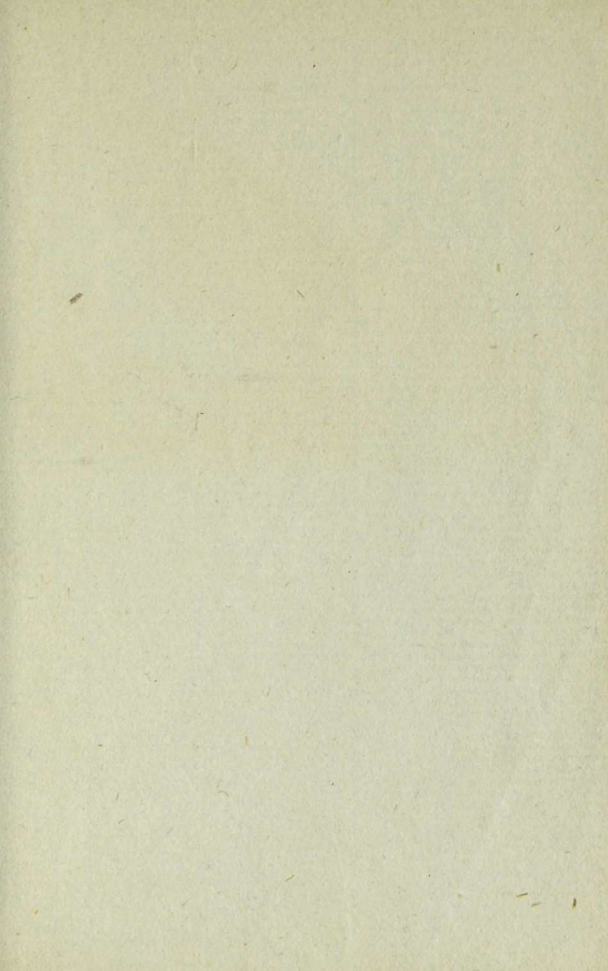
THE great varieties and inter-mixtures which constitute this beautiful kind, exceed description. They are fond of society, and their increase is prodigious, as they in general breed nine times in the year.



THE PARTRIDGE

IS no where in greater plenty than in this island; where in their season they contribute to our most elegant entertainments.

The young birds run as soon as they are hatched—and the female lays from fourteen to eighteen or twenty eggs.



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