

This species is common every where in England, and at all times gregarious, and great numbers often form themselves into societies, particularly in breeding time, chusing a clump of the largest and tallest trees whereon to make their nests. These are called *Rookeries*, and from their perpetual chatter, and litter they occasion, are to most people a great annoyance. The eggs as in the Crow, but smaller, and the spots larger; they begin to build early in March; the male and female sit by turns, and after the breeding season roost elsewhere; in their going and returning from their haunts, they sometimes are in such vast flocks as to darken the air. In England they remain throughout the year, but in France and Silesia are migratory. We do not see it in Aso's list, as a bird of Spain, though the Crow is mentioned; and Mr. White has assured me, that he never met with either Crow or Rook in Gibraltar. Linnæus ranks it among his Swedish birds; but neither Brunnich nor Muller mention it as belonging to Denmark; nor is it in Georgi's list of the birds of Lake Baikal. It is, however, not uncommon in Russia, and the west part of Siberia, particularly in the more southern latitudes.

M. Levaillant met with many at the Cape of Good Hope,\* but observes, that they are not bare about the nostrils; and if so, this no doubt must arise from some different mode of procuring food. I do not find it mentioned as an American species.

It is said that there are no Rooks in the Isle of Jersey, although Crows and Magpies are not unfrequent, nor is it certain that the Jay inhabits that Island.

\* Whether it is this or the Hooded Crow we are not clear, but Linschoten, in his *Voyages*, p. 84, says, that in India "there are a most wonderful number of black Crows, which do much hurt, and are so bold, that oftentimes they come flying in at their windows, and take the meat out of the dish, as it standeth on the table before them that are set down to eat; and as I myself sate writing above in a chamber, the windowes being open, one flew in at the window, picked the cotton out of my inkehorne, and blotted all the paper that lay on my table, do what I could to let him. They sitte commonly uppon the Buffles backs, and pecke off their haire." &c. &c. I suspect these not to be the common Crow, as this is not known to congregate.