

## BIRDS OF CANADA.

"The forests of Canada are by no means so well provided in birds, either with respect to numbers or variety, as the seas, lakes and rivers are with fishes. There are some, however, which have this merit, and are peculiar to North America. There are eagles of two sorts; the largest have their necks and heads almost white; they give chase to the hares and rabbits, which they carry off in their pounces to their nests. The other sort are grey, and prey upon birds only. Both kinds are excellent fishers. The falcon, goss-hawk, and tassel-hawk, are exactly the same with those in Europe; there are besides, a second sort of falcons, that live entirely on fish. The partridges of Canada, are of three sorts; the *grey*, *red* and *black*; these last are the least valued of the three, having too much the flavour of the grape, juniper and fir-tree. These have also the head and eyes of a pheasant, and their flesh is of a brownish colour, with long tails spreading like a fan or the tail of a turkey-cock, and of an extraordinary beauty, some of them being mixed with red, brown and grey, and others of a light mixture of light grey and brown. All these sorts of partridges are, however, larger than ours in Europe, but so remarkably tame that they suffer you not only to shoot at them, but to come very near them.

Besides snipes, which are excellent in this country, and the smaller waterfowl, which is found every where in the greatest abundance, you sometimes meet with wood-cocks near springs, but in no great numbers. In the country of the Illinois, and all over the south parts of Canada they are in great plenty.

Mr. Denys, a French writer, who resided some time on this continent, assures us, that the raven of Canada is quite as good eating as a hen; which may be true of Acadia, though doubtful with respect of other parts of Canada. The ravens are something larger than ours in Europe, blacker, and have a different cry. The Ospreys, on the contrary, are smaller