

The above description was taken from a fine full-plumaged male, which was shot in the vicinity of Philadelphia in the month of January. It was in good condition, and weighed three pounds thirteen ounces avoirdupois.]

FEMALE GOOSANDER.

PLATE LXVIII.—FIG. 2.

Peale's Museum, No. 2933.—*Dun Diver*, *Lath. Syn.* iii. p. 240.—*Arct. Zool.* No. 465.—*Bewick's Brit. Birds*, ii. p. 23.—*Turt. Syst.* p. 335.—*L'Harle Femelle*, *Briss.* vi. p. 236, *Buff.* viii. p. 272, *Pl. enl.* 953.

MERGUS MERGANSER.—LINNÆUS.

Syn. of Fem. or Young.—*Mergus castor*, *Linn. Syst.* i. 209.—*Merganser cinereus*, *Briss. Orn.* vi. 254.—*Dun Diver*, or *Sparling Fowl*, *Mont. Bew. &c.*—*Goosander Female*, *Selby's Illust.* pl. lvii.

THIS generally measures an inch or two shorter than the male; the length of the present specimen was twenty-five inches; extent, thirty-five inches; bill, crimson on the sides, black above; irides, reddish; crested head and part of the neck, dark brown, lightest on the sides of the neck, where it inclines to a sorrel colour; chin and throat, white; the crest shoots out in long radiating flexible stripes; upper part of the body, tail, and flanks, an ashy slate, tinged with brown; primaries, black; middle secondaries, white, forming a large speculum on the wing; greater coverts, black, tipped for half an inch with white; sides of the breast, from the sorrel-coloured part of the neck downwards, very pale ash, with broad semi-circular touches of white; belly and lower part of the breast a fine yellowish cream colour—a distinguishing trait also in the male; legs and feet, orange red.

[It is truly astonishing with what pertinacity Montagu adheres to the opinion that the dun diver is a species distinct from the goosander. Had this excellent ornithologist had the same opportunities for examining these birds that we have, he