



THE

INFANTILE CABINET

OF

BIRDS.

LONDON:

Printed for Darton, Harvey, and Darton, Gracechurch-street.

1810.

Price Threepence.

LONDON. Published by W. DARTON and J. HARVEY, Gracechurch Succur? April 1808



INFANTILE CABINET.

The Robin.

How sweetly sings the little Robin Redbreast! Early in the spring we hear his pleasant notes: in summer he retires from our dwellings; but when autumn comes again, he sits and chaunts on hovel, barn, or tree. The Robin feeds chiefly on insects; but in winter, when he can no longer find his usual supply, he will hop about our doors to pick up the crumbs.

The Sparrow.

The Sparrow is a very saucy little bird: he robs the gardens of their seeds, and sometimes the martins of their nests, which they have been at the trouble of building with mud, straw, and feathers. In autumn, Sparrows assemble in flocks and feed in corn-fields. They take but little care to provide for themselves against the winter, often sharing with the domestic pigeons and poultry.





The Blackbird.

The Blackbird sings very loudly in the spring of the year, and causes the woods and valleys to ring with his song. He rises early in the morning, keeps himself clean, and looks cheerful. A Blackbird, when confined in a cage, may be taught to whistle a tune, and even to imitate the human voice: but how much more pleasant it is to hear him warble in the woods!

The Chaffinch.

Some persons have been so cruel as to blind the Chaffinch, in order that he might sing the more. Let us hope that this cruelty will never be put in practice again. He mostly sings but one kind of tune. He feeds chiefly upon seeds with hard, chaffy skins, and is therefore called the Chaffinch.

The Goldfinch. This is one of the most handsome birds bred in





England. Towards the winter these beautifullittle birds assemble in large flocks, and feed on different kind of seeds. The note of a Goldfinch is uncommonly sweet. It is very docile, and submits to confinement with great patience. It is particularly fond of the seed of the thistle.

The Crow.

There is a Crow upon an old tree, with a wal-

nut in its mouth. Crows eat grubs, worms, and grain: sometimes they do much good, at others much mischief, to the farmers. The Crow is quite black, and resembles the raven in shape and manners. They are more numerous in this country than in any other. They are very quicksighted, and often elude the vigilance of the gunner.



The Crow.



The Turkey.

That Turkey seems to walk and strut like a beau. As he is a stranger, and comes from abroad, we must not be too severe on his faults, but teach him better by our example. Turkeys are very furious among themselves; but extremely timid with other animals: even the common cock makes the Turkey keep at a distance. The young onesare chiefly fed with insects, which they prefer to other food.

The Lark.

The Lark is a very early-rising bird, in the spring; and his delightfil song may be heard as soon as the day-breaks. It huilds a nest, on the ground, chiefly in fields of hising corn or high grass. The Sky-Lark and Wood-Lark soar to an amazing height, and are the only birds that sing while they fly. The Wood-Lark is a very tender bird, and does not live to so great an age as the Sky-lark.





The Cock

is a well-known domestic fowl: he is very courageous, and will not suffer any one of his own species to rule in the poultry-yard, but himself; but we would rather see him strutting undisturbed there, than to be thrown at with sticks, which some very wicked, idleboysarecruelenough to do. Suppose they were to have sticks thrown at them, how would they like it?

The Pigeon.

There are more varieties of this well-known bird, than of almost any other. Each sort has a name descriptive of its actionsor shape; as,tumblers, carriers, croppers, pouters, &c. &c. So docile and tractable are many of them, that, with good care and kind usage, they may be taught to perform many things very useful to their keepers.









The Eagle

builds her nest in high rocks and cliffs: it soars the highest of all the feathered tribe, and it has such power withits talons, that it will often carry off a goose, or a lamb, or any other animal equally large. Its eye is so strong, that it can look on the sun without being dazzled.

The Stork

is a silent bird: he seems to delight to be among mankind, and builds his nests on the tops of chimneys, and high trees. The Stork is a pattern of filial affection; the young ones will sometimes fly with the old ones on their back. Upon the approach of winter they fly into warmer climates, but are seldom seen in England. They feed chiefly upon frogs, fishes, birds, and serpents.

The Vulture is a large bird, and a native of America: it is so





very voracious, that it will sometimes carry off a deer, or a young calf, in its talons. They are often seen on the banks of rivers and the sea-shore. It is much like the eagle; but may be known from it by the nakedness of its head and neck. Their acute smell assists them very much in finding food.

THE END.

London : Printed by Darton, Harvey, & Co. Gracechurch-street.



