the length being only 26 inches. The ſexes differ alſo greatly in colours. The bill of the male is of a pale yel­low ; the head, neck, and back, are elegantly marked, ſlender lines of grey and black running tranſverſely. The upper part of the breaſt is of a rich gloſſy green ; the reſt of the breaſt and the belly black, mixed with ſome white feathers; the ſides are marked like the neck ; the coverts of the wings croſſed with undulated lines of black and reddish brown ; the exterior webs of the greater quill-feathers are black : the tail conſiſts of 18 feather, the middle of which is the longeſt ; theſe are black, marked on each side with a few white spots. The lens are very ſtrong, and covered with brown feathers ; the edges of the toes are pectinated. — Of the female, the bill is duſky ; the throat red ; the head, neck, and back, are marked with transverſe bars oſ red and black : the breaſt has ſome white ſpots on it, and the lower part is of a plain orange colour : the belly is bar­red with pale orange and black ; the tips of the feathers are white. The tail is of a deep ruſt-colour barred with black, tipped with white, and conſiſts of 16 feathers.

2. The *tetrix,* black grous, or black-cock, like the former ſpecies, is fond of woody and mountainous situations ; feeding on bilberries and other mountain fruits, and in the winter on the tops of the heath. In the ſummer they fre­quently deſcend from the hills to feed on corn. They never pair : but in the ſpring the male gets upon ſome eminence, crows and claps his wings ; on which ſignal all the females within hearing reſort to him. The hen lays seldom more than ſix or ſeven eggs. When the female is obliged, during the time of incubation, to leave her eggs in queſt of food, ſhe covers them up ſo artfully with moſs or dry leaves, that it is very difficult to diſcover them. On this occasion ſhe is extremely tame and tranquil, however wild and timo­rous at other times. She often keeps to her neſt, though ſtrangers attempt to drag her away. As ſoon as the young ones are hatched, they are ſeen running with extreme agility after the mother, though ſometimes they are not entirely diſengaged from the ſhell. The hen leads them forwards for the firſt time into the woods, to ſhow them ant’s eggs and the wild mountain-berries, which, while young, are their only food. As they grow older their appetities grow ſtronger, and they then feed upon the tops of heather and the cones of the pine-tree. In this manner they ſoon come to perfection : they are hardy birds, their food lies every where before them, and it would ſeem that they ſhould increaſe in great abundance. But this is not the caſe ; their numbers are thinned by rapacious birds and beaſts of every kind, and ſtill more by their own salacious conteſts.—As ſoon as the hatching is over, which the fe­male performs in the manner of an hen, the whole brood follows the mother for about a month or two ; at the end of which the young males entirely forſake her, and keep in great harmony together till the beginning of ſpring. At this ſeaſon they begin for the firſt time to feel the amorous passions; and then adieu to all their former friendſhips ! They begin to conſider each other as rivals ; and the rage of concupiſcence quite extinguiſhes the ſpirit of society. They fight each other like game-cocks ; and at that time are ſo inattentive to their own ſafety, that it often happens that two or three of them are killed at a ſhot. It is probable, that in theſe conteſts the bird which comes off victorious takes poſſession of the female ſeraglio, as it is certain they have no faithful attachments.

An old black cock is in length 22 inches, and weighs near four pounds. The bill is duſky ; and the plumage of the whole body black, gloſſed over the neck and rump with a shining blue. The coverts of the wings are of a duſky brown ; the inner coverts white ; the thighs and legs are covered with dark brown feathers ; the toes reſemble thoſe of the former species. The tail conſiſts of 16 black feathers, and is much forked ; the exterior feathers bend greatly outwards, and their ends ſeem as if cut off. —The female weighs only two pounds ; and its length is one foot ſix inches. The head and neck are marked with alternate bars of dull red and black ; the breaſt with duſky black and white ; but the laſt predominates. The back, coverts of the wings, and tail, are of the same colours as the neck, but the red is deeper. The tail is slightly forked ; it con­ſiſts of 18 feathers variegated with red and black. The feathers under the tail are white, marked with a few bars of black and orange. This bird hatches its young late in the summer. It lays from ſix to eight eggs, of a dull yellowiſh white colour, marked with numbers of very ſmall ferruginous ſpecks ; and towards the ſmaller end with ſome blotches of the same hue.

3. The sco*ticus,* red game, or moor-fowl, is peculiar to the Britiſh iſlands. The male weighs about 19 ounces ; and is in length 151/2 inches. The bill is black ; the irides hazel­coloured. The throat is red. The plumage on the head and neck is of a light tawny red ; each feather is marked with ſeveral transverse bars of black. The back and ſcapular feathers are of a deeper red ; and on the middle of each feather is a large black ſpot ; the breaſt and belly are of a dull purpliſh brown, croſſed with numerous narrow duſky lines; the quill-feathers are duſky; the tail conſiſts of 16 feathers of an equal length, all of them (except the four middlemoſt) are black, and the middle feathers are barred with red : the thighs are of a pale red, barred obſcurely with black ; the legs and feet clothed to the very claws with thick soft white feathers. The claws are whitiſh, very broad and ſtrong. The female weighs only 15 ounces.—The colours in general are duller than thoſe of the male ; the breaſt and belly are ſpotted with white; and the tips of ſome of the coverts of the wings are of the ſame colour.—Theſe birds pair in the ſpring, and lay from ſix to ten eggs. The young brood follow the hen the whole ſummer ; in the winter they join in flocks of 40 or 50, and become remarkably ſhy and wild; they always keep on the tops of the hills, are ſcarce ever found on the ſides, and never descend into the valleys. Their food is the mountaim-berries and tops of the heath.

4. The *lagopus,* white game or ptarmigan, is 15 inches in length, and weighs 19 ounces. Its plumage is of a pale brown or aſh colour, elegantly croſſed or motled with small duſky ſpots and minute bars ; the head and neck with broad bars of black, ruſt colour, and white : the belly and wing's are white, but the shafts of the greater quill feathers black. In the male, the grey colour predominates, except on the head and neck, where there is a great mixture of red, with bars of white. The females and young birds have a great deal of ruſt colour in them. The tail conſiſts of 16 feathers; the two middle of which are aſh-coloured, motled with black, and tipped with white ; the two next black, slightly marked with white at their ends, the reſt wholly black : the feathers incumbent on the tad are white, and almoſt entirely cover it.

Ptarmigans are found in theſe kingdoms only on the ſummits of the higheſt hills of the Highlands of Scotland, of the Hebrides, and Orkneys ; and a few ſtill inhabit the lofty hills near Keswick in Cumberland as well as the mountains of Wales. They live amidſt the rocks, perching on the grey ſtones, the general colour of the ſtrata in those exalted ſituations. They are very silly birds ; ſo tame as to bear driving like poultry ; and, if provoked to riſe, take very ſhort flights, making a great circuit like pigeons.