

A  
NATURAL HISTORY  
OF  
BIRDS.

The most of which have not hitherto been either figured or described, and the Rest, by Reason of Obscure, or too brief Descriptions without Figures, or of Figures very ill designed, are hitherto but little known.

C O N T A I N I N G

The Representations of thirty-nine Birds, engraven on thirty-seven Copper-Plates, after curious Original Drawings from Life; together with a full and accurate Description of each.

To which are added, by way of Appendix,

Sixteen Copper-Plates, representing the Figures of many curious and undescribed ANIMALS, such as QUADRUPEDES (both Land and Amphibious) SERPENTS, FISHES and INSECTS:

The whole C O N T A I N I N G

Fifty-three Copper-Plates, which is the full Number given in each of the foregoing Parts of this Work. Every BIRD, BEAST, &c. is colour'd from the Original Painting, according to Nature.

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P A R T IV. and Last.

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By GEORGE EDWARDS,

*Library-Keeper to the Royal College of PHYSICIANS.*

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L O N D O N:

Printed for the AUTHOR, at the *College of Physicians, in Warwick-Lane*

M.DCC.LI.





*The large Green and spotted* L I Z A R D.

**I**T is here represented of its natural Bigness: I met with it alive, in the Possession of a Person whose Name I have forgot, who staid in *London* only for a little while, but gave me Liberty to make a Draught of it, and told me it was brought from *Jamaica*.

The Head, all the Legs, Sides, and under Part of the Body, are of a fine green Colour; the Top of the Head is cover'd with broad Scales; the Sides, and under Part of the Head, with smaller Scales; it has a Kind of Necklace under its Throat, expressed in the Figure. It extends a Black forked Tongue from its Mouth; the Ear-hole is pretty far behind the Eye, which is of a black Colour. The upper Side, from Head to Tail exclusive, is of a dark-brown, or dusky Colour, cover'd with very small Scales like Studs, variegated with yellowish Lines, crossing each other, and forming an irregular Kind of Net-Work, as represented on each Side, from the fore Legs to the Hinder; it is marked with fine Blue oval Spots, each Spot being surrounded with a dusky or black Colour; the Tail is cover'd with longish Scales, which run round it in regular Rows to its End, all of a dark Brown, with a greenish Cast. The Belly hath broad transverse Scales running across it; it hath five Toes on each Foot, with small sharp Nails; the hinder Feet seem to have a Thumb and four distinct Fingers.

Mr. *Petiver* in his Works has, I believe, figur'd this same Lizard. See his 92d Plate, Fig. 1. He having drawn it with the Back upwards, it doth not show the Spots on the Sides, which however he has mentioned. He says, his is from *Gibraltar*, and calls it a *Gibraltar Lizard*, finely embroidered on the Back with brown Nets, and yellowish Specks, with bluish Spots on the Sides. This beautiful Creature, he says, was presented to him alive, and lived above three Months after it was brought over, without any Food, and died in the Winter. Though Mr. *Petiver* has not mentioned the Head and other Parts being Green, as I have described them, I suppose he omitted that as a Thing common to many Lizards, and wrote only what he found to be extraordinary in this. I take his and mine to be of the same Species and Country, though he and I have been differently informed as to the Native Place. What is brought to us by Ships that have been on trading Voyages, is often said to be of the Country from whence the Ship came last.

The Butterfly here figur'd, only to give an Action to the Lizard, is found on Currant Bushes in *England*: The Body is of a Gold-Colour with black Spots; the Wings are of a Cream-Colour, with many black Spots and Streaks; the upper Wings have each a transverse Bar of Gold-Colour cross their Middles, between two Rows of black Spots.