

ACANTHIZA MAGNA, *Gould.*

Great Acanthiza.

FOR the knowledge of this new and very distinct species of *Acanthiza* we are indebted to Ronald C. Gunn, Esq., a gentleman who has long resided in Van Diemen's Land, and whose name will be for ever perpetuated in the annals of science for the numerous botanical discoveries made by him in the island he has adopted as his home. I am, moreover, indebted to Mr. Gunn for the only specimen of this bird which has come under my notice, and which was collected by him in one of the districts of the northern part of the island. I have carefully compared this specimen with every other member of the genus, and have no hesitation in pronouncing it an entirely new species of this Australian form. In size it approaches the smaller species of *Sericornis*; but in its structure and the character of its plumage, it is closely allied to the members of the genus in which I have placed it.

Head, all the upper surface, sides of the neck and flanks olive-brown, becoming of a more rufous hue on the rump and upper tail-coverts; wings blackish-brown, washed with olive on the external webs; coverts, particularly the greater ones, tipped with white; primaries narrowly edged with grey, innermost secondaries margined all round the tip with white; tail olive, crossed near the tip by a broad band of dusky-brown, beyond which the external feathers are margined on both webs with greyish-white; lores black; ear-coverts slaty-brown; throat and under surface straw-yellow; bill blackish-brown; feet fleshy-brown.

The figures are of the size of life.