

CALLIPEPLA CALIFORNICA.

Californian Partridge.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Call. capite cristâ plenâ nigrâ, super rostrum acclinatâ ornato; gulâ nigrâ albo circumdatâ, collo posticè et ad latera plumbeo, singulis plumis nigro marginatis, et ad apicem albo guttatis; abdomine superiore fulvo, medio castaneo, singulis plumis lunulâ nigrâ apicali.

Male.—Forehead straw-colour, with a very fine line of black down the centre of each feather; throat deep velvety black, encircled from the posterior angle of the eye with a broad line of white; across the head and passing down behind the eye another line of white, bounded posteriorly by black; occiput umber-brown; crest deep velvety black; feathers of the back and sides of the neck lanceolate in form, and of a blue-grey bordered all round with black, and with a minute spot of white at the extremity of each; back, rump, upper tail- and wing-coverts olive-brown; tertiaries edged with buff, narrowly on their outer webs and broadly on their inner ones; tail grey; chest blue-grey; upper part of the abdomen rich buff, centre of the abdomen chestnut, all the feathers with a crescent-shaped line of black at the extremity; flank-feathers olive-brown, with a line of buffy white down the centre, and a second broader, oblique line of buff on the outer web of each; under tail-coverts sandy buff, with a broad stripe of greyish brown down the centre of each; bill black; feet grey.

Female.—Forehead dirty white, streaked with brown; crest brownish grey; feathers of the abdomen buffy white, with a crescent-shaped mark of black at the tip; feathers of the sides and back of the neck less decidedly marked; under surface destitute of the buff and chestnut markings which are so conspicuous in the male.

Total length, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches; bill, $\frac{1}{2}$; wing, $4\frac{1}{2}$; tail, 4; tarsi, $1\frac{1}{4}$; middle toe and nail, $1\frac{1}{4}$.

Crested Partridge of New California, La Pér. Voy., vol. i. p. 201.

Perdix Californica, Lath. Ind. Orn. Supp., pl. lxii.—Temm. Pig. et Gall., p. 738.

Californian Quail, Lath. Gen. Syn. Supp., p. 281.—Ib. Gen. Hist., vol. viii. p. 328.

Tetrao Californica, Shaw, Nat. Misc., pl. 345.

Ortyx Californica, Steph. Cont. of Shaw's Gen. Zool., vol. xi. p. 384.—Less. Ill. de Zool., texte de pl. 52.—Aud. Birds of Am., vol. iv. pl. 418.

Ortyx Californicus, Less. Cent. de Zool., p. 188. pl. 60.—Benn. Gard. and Menag. of Zool. Soc., vol. ii. p. 29.

Coturnix Californica, Vieill., 2nd Edit. du Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat., tom. xxv. p. 259.—Ib. Ency. Méth. Orn., Part I. p. 367.

Ortyx Californica? Jard. and Selb. Ill. Orn., vol. i. Gen. *Ortyx*.

Lophortyx Californica, Bonap. List of Birds of Eur. and Am., p. 42.—G. R. Gray, List of Gen. of Birds, 2nd Edit., p. 80.

THIS species, which is second to no member of the group in beauty, is rendered remarkable by the peculiar form of the crest, which, rising in a fine point at the vertex of the head, gradually increases in breadth