

CYRTONYX OCELLATUS, Gould.

Ocellated Partridge.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Cyrt. abdomine medio pallidè castaneo ; lateribus inferioribus splendidè castaneis transversim nigro fasciatis ; corporis superioris plumis singulis lineâ latâ centrali ad apicem latiore ornatis.

Bill black, strong and arched ; top of the head, which is slightly crested, blackish brown ; a large white mark extends over each eye and passes on to the back part of the neck ; beneath the eye is an oval mark of bluish black ; from the base of the lower mandible extends another white mark which spreads upon the front of the neck and is bounded by an abrupt margin of black ; a large patch of the latter colour occupies the chin and throat ; the general colour of the whole of the upper surface is brownish olive, each feather having a decided central line of chestnut following the direction of the shaft and becoming spatulate at the tip ; the web of each feather is transversely barred and blotched with black ; the chest and abdomen are sandy chestnut, becoming more intense on the under tail-coverts ; sides of the chest and flanks transversely spotted with yellowish white on a bluish grey ground ; thighs black ; tail very short and partly hidden ; tarsi brown.

Total length, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches ; bill, $\frac{5}{8}$; wing, $4\frac{1}{2}$; tail, — ; tarsi, $1\frac{1}{4}$; middle toe and nail, $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Ortyx ocellatus, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part IV. p. 75.

Two examples of this bird are all that have come under my notice ; of these, the one from which my description was taken is in the Museum of the Zoological Society of London, and the other, an exceedingly fine specimen, in that of the Jardin des Plantes. It is very nearly allied to the *Cyrtonyx Massena*, but differs from that species in having the black marks on the face larger and more conspicuous, in the brighter chestnut of the lower part of the abdomen, and in the stripes down the centres of the feathers of the upper surface being chestnut instead of buff ; it differs also in the greater development of the secondaries and tertiaries, which are so much lengthened, that when the wing is closed the tail is scarcely distinguishable.

I regret to say that nothing whatever is known of its history.

Habitat. Guatemala.

The figures are of the natural size.