

PHYLLORNIS HARDWICKI.

Hardwick's Phyllornis.

- Chloropsis Hardwickii*, Jard. and Selby, Ill. Orn., vol. ii., Addenda, p. 1, note.—Jerd. in Madr. Journ. of Lit. and Sci., vol. xiii. pt. ii. p. 125.
- Phyllornis Hardwickii*, Blyth, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Beng., vol. xi. p. 106, vol. xii. p. 955, vol. xiii. p. 392, vol. xiv. p. 566, vol. xv. p. 40.—Ib. Cat. of Birds in Mus. Asiat. Soc. Calcutta, p. 212.—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. i. p. 124, *Phyllornis*, sp. 8.—Gray, Cat. of Spec. and Draw. of Mamm. and Birds presented to Brit. Mus. by B. H. Hodgson, Esq., p. 60.—Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av., vol. i. p. 396, *Phyllornis*, sp. 1.—Horsf. and Moore, Cat. of Birds in Mus. East Ind. Comp., vol. i. p. 258.
- Chloropsis curvirostris*, Swains., Lard. Cab. Cycl. Anim. in Menag., part iii. p. 345.
- *auriventris*, Deless. Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 100.—Ib. Mag. de Zool. 1840, Ois. pl. 17.—Ib. Voy. dans l'Inde, tom. ii. p. 23. pl. 7.
- *chrysogaster*, M'Clell. in Proc. of Zool. Soc., part vii. p. 167.
- *cyanopterus*, Hodgs. in Gray's Zool. Misc., 1844, p. 82.
- Boing-dan-thay* of the Aracanese, Blyth.

FEW persons have been more ardently devoted to the investigation of natural history than the late Major-General Thomas Hardwicke: not only did this veteran Indian officer amass vast stores of the animal products of India, which he subsequently bequeathed to the British Museum, but there also will be found a large number of drawings, both of quadrupeds and birds, presented by the same liberal hand to the great national repository. It was in honour of this brother labourer in the field of science that Messrs. Jardine and Selby named the bird here represented *Hardwickii*. From Swainson it received the name of *curvirostris*—a most inappropriate appellation, since its bill is not more curved than that of the other members of the genus; the term *cyanopterus* was assigned to it by Mr. Hodgson; while *auriventris* and *chrysogaster* appear among the synonyms as having been given by Mr. M'Clelland and M. Delessert. Both *cyanopterus* and *auriventris* would have been appropriate specific appellations, had not that of *Hardwicki*, by which it will always be known, been previously applied to it.

The *Phyllornis Hardwicki* will rank as one of the finest members of the genus, as it is interesting not only for its gay and fine colouring, but from the circumstance of its tints being so widely different from those of any of its congeners as to render it at once distinguishable from all of them. It is confined, so far as I can ascertain, to the countries of Nepaul, Bhotan, Assam, Sylhet, and Aracan.

As will be seen on reference to the opposite Plate, the sexes present a marked difference in their colouring; it will be noticed also that the black gorget of the male extends further down than in any other species. Other peculiarities in the colouring of this sex will also be apparent, such as the blue colouring of the wing, the orange on the breast, &c.

The male has the lores, sides of the face, chin, throat, front of the neck, and a large gorget-shaped mark on the breast deep velvety black; a broad moustache of azure-blue descending from the angle of the mouth within the black; all the upper surface, scapularies, and secondaries yellowish grass-green, the yellow tint prevailing on the head and back of the neck; shoulder glossy verditer blue; greater wing-coverts and margins of the primaries deep blue; inner webs of the primaries blackish brown; tail deep blue; under surface dull orange; bill black; irides brown; feet olive-grey.

The general plumage of the female is grass-green, with a light-blue moustache at the angle of the lower mandible; and the centre of the abdomen, vent, and under tail-coverts orange.

The Plate represents the two sexes of the natural size, on the *Epigynium acuminatum*.