PLATYCERCUS HÆMATOGASTER, Gould.

Plat. fronte facieque cæruleis; summo capite, nuchâ, plumisque auricularibus flavescenti-cinereis; pectore cinereo tincto brunneo; plumis auricularibus ad partem superiorem stramineis; uropygio, tectricibusque superioribus caudæ cerinis; articulo humerali pallidè cæruleo; primariis intensè fuscis ad apicem acutis; secondariis tectricibusque majoribus violaceo-cæruleis; tectricibus minoribus alisque ad partem superiorem intensè coccineis; lateribus tectricibusque inferioribus pallidè flavis; abdomine medio nitidè coccineo; plumis duabus intermediis caudæ ad bases pallidè olivaceo-viridibus, ad apices in intensè cæruleum transeuntibus; reliquis plumis ad bases intensè cæruleis, ad apices in album transeuntibus; rostro corneo; pedibus fuscis.

Long. tot. 12 unc.; alæ, $5\frac{3}{8}$; caudæ, 7; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.

Forehead and face deep ultra-marine blue; crown of the head, back of the neck, ear-coverts, and chest yellowish grey, the grey assuming a brown tint on the chest; upper portion of the ear-coverts straw yellow; rump and upper tail-coverts wax yellow; point of the shoulders, both on the upper and under surface light ultra-marine blue; the tips of the primaries pointed, and of a dark blackish brown, except the basal portion of the external web, which with the secondaries and the greater wing-coverts are rich china blue; lesser wing-coverts, and all the upper portion of the wing deep saffron yellow; flanks and under tail-coverts rich primrose yellow; centre of the abdomen, and in some specimens a portion of the under tail-coverts,) rich scarlet red; base of the two centre tail-feathers light olive green tinged with oil green, and merging into dark blue at the tips; the remaining feathers deep china blue at the base, gradually passing into white at the tip; bill light horn colour; feet brown.

Platycercus hæmatogaster, Gould, in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part V., 1837, p. 88.

Three specimens of this new and lovely species of *Platycercus* have come under my notice, two of which were procured by Major Mitchell, Surveyor General of New South Wales, during his researches into the interior of that country. The specimens collected by this gentleman were subsequently presented by the Governor to the Museum at Sydney, the British Museum, and the Linnean Society of London. The two latter specimens appear to be males, and one in my own collection to be a female, which differs from the male only in having the whole of her markings more obscurely defined, and less vivid in the colouring. Major Mitchell informs me that they inhabit the scrubs on the banks of the Darling; and that the interior of the colony was the only locality in which he had observed them: we may consequently conclude that the unexplored regions of this vast country will still unfold to us many novelties of the highest interest; and that as new localities are investigated, additional species will be discovered of this peculiar and richly coloured group of ground Parrakeets, a form limited to Australia.

Habitat. Interior of New South Wales.