TROGON AURANTIUS, *Spix.*

Orange-breasted Trogon.

Mas. *Trog. vertice, pectoreque violaceo-cœruleis nitore viridi, gutture nigrescenti; dorso et uropygio intensè viridibus, hôc cœrulescenti; alis nigris, in medio lineis delicatis cinereis undatìm striatis; primariis albo extùs marginatis lateribus cinereis; abdomine medio crissoque splendidè aurantiacis; rectricibus caudæ duabus intermediis intensè viridibus; utrisque duabus proximis nigrescenti-fuscis extùs viridi lavatis, his atque illis ad apicem albis; rectricibus tribus externis nigrescenti-fuscis per dimidium basale, dimidio apicali albo; rostro lividè corneo; pedibus plumbeis.*

Fœm. *Capite, corpore suprà, gutture, pectore, lateribusque nigrescenti-cinereis; caudâ nigrescenti-cinereâ, rectricibus intermediis ad apicem nigerrimis, tribus externis albo extùs marginatis, apicibusque albis; alâ mediâ albo striatâ; abdomine medio, crissoque aurantiacis; rostro obscurè corneo, ad apicem pallidiore; pedibus plumbeis.*

Male. Crown of the head and chest violet blue, with green reflections, passing into brownish black on the throat; back and rump rich dark green inclining to blue on the latter; wings black, with the centre very finely striated with greyish white, and the primaries margined on the outer edges with white; flanks grey; centre of the abdomen and under tail-coverts rich orange yellow; two centre tail-feathers rich green; the two next on each side blackish brown, tinged with green on their outer webs, and all six tipped with black; the three lateral feathers on each side blackish brown at the base, and pure white for the remainder of their length; bill blueish horn-colour; feet lead colour.

Female. Head, all the upper surface, throat, chest, flanks and tail dark blackish grey, the middle feathers of the latter tipped with jet black, and the three lateral ones on each side margined on their external webs, and tipped with white; centre of the wing striated with white; centre of the abdomen and under tail-coverts orange yellow; bill dark horn colour, becoming lighter at the point; feet lead colour.

Total length, 10½ inches; *bill*, 1; *wing*, 5; *tail*, 6; *tarsi*, ½.

Trogon aurantius, Spix, Av. Sp. Nov., tom. i. p. 47. tab. xxxvi.

I HAVE but little hesitation in referring the present beautiful species to the *Trogon aurantius* of Spix, and this opinion coincides with that of my friend Mr. John Natterer, who when in London examined my specimens, and informed me that it was not uncommon in the woods near Rio de Janeiro: I have myself received it from various parts of the Brazils, which country would appear to constitute its natural habitat. Much difference exists in the colour of the upper surface of different specimens, particularly in the head and throat; some having those parts of a rich violet purple, while others have the same parts of a rich metallic green; but as I find no difference in their relative admeasurements, I am led to regard them as merely varieties of the same species. The plumage of the young male resembles that of the female, but the central tail-feathers are at all times glossed with green on the upper surface: they are however apt to puzzle the ornithologist unless he has made himself acquainted with the peculiar changes of the tribe, from the circumstance of the feathers of the body frequently undergoing a change before those of the wings and tail. I have a specimen in my collection, in which an almost perfect change has taken place in the plumage of the body, its tint being nearly as rich as that of the adult: this specimen is also rendered more remarkable by the centre of the wing having assumed the fine and minute markings of maturity, while the tail resembles that of the female, in which the white only occupies the outer webs and extreme tips of three lateral feathers.

Habitat. Brazils.

The Plate represents a male and female of the natural size.