

AULACORAMPHUS WAGLERI.

Wagler's Groove-bill.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Aul. rostro nigro, ad basin lineâ aurantiaco-flavâ, circumdato, lateribus (nisi basin versus) flavis supernè in cæruleo-viridem transeuntibus infra lineâ nigrâ a tomio sejunctis.

General plumage deep green, with a wash of blue on the tips of the secondaries; primaries black, edged with green; tail deep green, passing into blue near the extremity and largely tipped with rich chestnut; the portion of the cheeks immediately behind the bill and the throat white, with a slight wash of blue where it meets the green of the neck and chest; under tail-coverts chestnut; base of the culmen, a large nearly triangular patch in the lower angle of the upper mandible, and a line along the denticulations black; remainder of the upper mandible rich yellow, with a line of pale green along the lower edge of the yellow separating it from the black of the denticulations; under mandible entirely black, both mandibles bounded at the base by a somewhat broad raised band of orange-yellow; irides orange; orbits deep rose-red; legs and feet leaden-blue.

Total length, 14 inches; bill, $3\frac{3}{4}$; wing, $5\frac{1}{4}$; tail, $5\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $1\frac{3}{4}$.

Pteroglossus pavoninus, in Royal Mus. of Munich.—Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part III. p. 158.—Ib. Mon. Ramph. pl. 30.—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. ii. p. 404, *Pteroglossus*, sp. 26.

Pteroglossus Wagleri, Sturm's Edit. of Gould's Mon. of Ramph., pl.

Aulacoramphus pavoninus, Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av., p. 95, *Aulacoramphus*, sp. 2.

THE *Pteroglossus Sturmi* being unique in the Imperial Museum of Vienna, and the *Aulacoramphus Wagleri* in the Royal Museum of Munich, I was under the necessity of visiting both those cities for the purpose of obtaining drawings for the present work; the information I procured respecting these Toucans twenty years ago was but meagre, nor has our knowledge been increased in the interval. Considerable confusion exists as to the name of the present species; it has generally been known as the *Pteroglossus pavoninus* of Wagler, but the Messrs. Sturm state that Wagler gave that name in mistake to an example of the bird previously named *prasinus* by Dr. Lichtenstein, and add that two other species had also been confounded under the same appellation; they also remark that the name is singularly inappropriate, inasmuch as there is nothing in the appearance or colouring of the bird to remind us of a Peacock; and moreover state their belief, that the name had in the first instance been applied to a made-up specimen which had had some feathers inserted, thus giving rise to a false impression; under these circumstances they have discarded the name altogether and proposed that of *Wagleri*, as a just compliment to their friend Dr. Wagler, who had done so much for the science of ornithology, and whose untimely death by the accidental discharge of a gun during a shooting excursion, deprived natural history of the service of one of her most talented and enthusiastic professors.

The *Aulacoramphus Wagleri* is said to be a native of Mexico. It is very nearly allied to the *Aulacoramphus prasinus*, but may be distinguished from that species by its more attenuated bill, by the greater breadth and more orange hue of the raised band at its base, and by the large amount of black near the base of the upper mandible.

The figure is of the size of life.

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