

AULACORAMPHUS SULCATUS.

Groove-bill.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Aul. rostro attenuato ; mandibulis compressis, sulcatis, superioris sulcis utrinque duobus, inferioris unicis ; superiore nigrâ, culmine apiceque saturatè rufo-brunnèâ ; inferiore nigrâ ad basin sanguineâ.

Upper surface dark grass-green ; under surface lighter yellowish green ; cheeks blue ; ear-coverts yellowish ; throat grey ; cheeks and narrow stripe over the eye blue ; primaries black, margined externally at the base with green ; upper portion of the sides of the upper mandible, and the apical part of the culmen chocolate-brown ; basal portion of the upper and lower mandible black, with the exception of the base, which is yellowish flesh-colour ; at the base of the mandibles a narrow thread-like line of white ; orbits brown ; feet dark green.

Total length, 13 inches ; bill, 3 ; wing, $4\frac{2}{3}$; tail, 5 ; tarsi, $1\frac{1}{4}$.

Pteroglossus sulcatus, Swains. in Journ. of Roy. Inst., vol. ix. p. 267.—Ib. Zool. Ill. 1st Ser., vol. i. pl. 44.—Temm. Pl. Col., pl. 356.—Gould's Mon. of Ramph., pl. 31.—Ib. Sturm's Edit., pl. —Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. ii. p. 404, *Pteroglossus*, sp. 25.

Aulacoramphus sulcatus, Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av., p. 95, *Aulacoramphus*, sp. 1.

In the narrow and attenuated form of the bill, and the deeply grooved fissures on the sides of that organ, this species differs from all its congeners ; but it is more nearly allied to *A. Derbyanus* than to any other. Its precise habitat is still unknown to me, but I believe it to frequent the country to the northward of the River Amazon, between Guiana and the Caraccas. Although not so rare as formerly, it is still wanting to many of the ornithological collections of Europe. The same paucity of information, which prevented me from giving any details as to its habits and economy in the former edition of this work, still exists. I have in my collection examples of what I believe to be both sexes of this bird ; and if this supposition be correct, the form and colouring of the bill, as well as the hue of the plumage, are precisely alike ; and the only difference is the somewhat smaller size of the female.

The figures are of the size of life.

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