

AGYRTRIA NIGRICAUDA.

Black-tailed Emerald.

Thaumatias nigricauda, Elliot, Ibis, 1878, p. 47.

Agyrtria nigricauda, Elliot, Synopsis of the Humming-Birds, p. 208 (1878).

MR. ELLIOT, who originally placed this species in the genus *Thaumatias*, has, in his larger work, referred it to *Agyrtria*. It differs from all the foregoing members of the genus in having the under tail-coverts pure white. The tail is steel-black, with a tinge of green on the centre tail-feathers under certain lights.

The home of this species, according to Mr. Elliot, is Guiana, Trinidad, and North-eastern Brazil.

The following is the description given by the above-named gentleman:—

“Upper parts bronzy green, darkest on the head, and shading into purple on the upper tail-coverts. Throat and breast shining metallic grass-green. Flanks dark green, with scarcely any lustre. Middle of abdomen, vent, and under tail-coverts pure white. Tail steel-black, the two outermost feathers greenish grey at their tips, the next merely edged with white at the tip. Maxilla brownish black; mandible flesh-colour, the tip black. Feet black. Total length $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, wing $2\frac{1}{2}$, tail $1\frac{1}{2}$, bill along culmen $\frac{3}{8}$.”

[R. B. S.]

AGYRTRIA NITIDICAUDA.

Bright-tailed Emerald.

Thaumatias nitidicauda, Elliot, Ibis, 1878, p. 48.

Agyrtria nitidicauda, Elliot, Synopsis of the Humming-Birds, p. 208 (1878).

THIS species, which comes from Guiana, is said by Mr. Elliot to resemble *A. nigricauda*, but to differ in the colour of the tail. The median pair of rectrices are golden green; the remaining ones with the inner webs black, except the tip, the outer webs metallic golden green; all the lateral tail-feathers are tipped with bright metallic golden green.

He further describes the species from the type in his collection:—

“*Adult.* Upper parts bright bronzy green, with a slight coppery tinge on the head. Chin white. Throat, breast, and sides of the neck bright metallic grass-green. Flanks and abdomen dull green. Middle of abdomen, vent, and under tail-coverts pure white. Wings purplish brown. Bill flesh-colour (perhaps red in life), with a dark tip. Total length $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, wing $2\frac{1}{2}$, tail $1\frac{1}{2}$, bill along culmen $\frac{3}{8}$.”

[R. B. S.]