

## HELIOTRYPHA PARZUDAKI.

### Parzudaki's Star-frontlet.

*Ornismya Parzudaki*, Long. et Parz. Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 72.

*Mellisuga Parzudaki*, Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. i. p. 112, *Mellisuga*, sp. 18.

*Heliangelus Parzudaki*, Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av., p. 76, *Heliangelus*, sp. 4.

*Heliotrypha Parzudakii*, Bonap. Rev. et Mag. de Zool., 1854, p. 252.—Sclat. in Proc. of Zool. Soc., part xxii. p. 40.

*Trochilus exortis*, Fras. Proc. of Zool. Soc., part viii. p. 14.

*Parzudakia dispar*, Reichenb. Auf. der Col., p. 12.

Two very different birds—inhabitants of distant countries—have evidently been confounded under the specific name of *Parzudaki*; this has, I think, been clearly and rightly pointed out by my good friend Reichenbach, who considers the *Parzudaki* of Lesson in the 'Revue Zoologique' for 1838, p. 315, to be different from the *Ornismya Parzudaki* described in the same work two years later.

The description published in 1838 doubtless refers to the rare little bird inhabiting Cuba, and now so well known to Trochilidists as the *Orthorhynchus Riccordi* of Ramon de la Sagra, the *Sporadinus Riccordi* of Bonaparte and later writers. The bird described in 1840, which is an inhabitant of Bogota and the Andean ranges to the northward of that province, is equally well known to all who have paid any attention to this group of birds, as well as to every dealer in bird-skins, as the "*Parzudaki*." Under these circumstances, I have considered it best to retain this name for the bird here represented, which is a finer and more beautiful species than the bird inhabiting Cuba.

So much on the subject of the nomenclature of the bird; a little, and only a little more remains to be said respecting its history, where it occurs in a state of nature, &c. Since the attention of collectors has been directed to the rich stores of the great Andean ranges, this bird has been sent from thence in such numbers that it has become quite a drug in the bird-market. The great emporium of Bogota is the source from which it has been mostly sent; but I possess examples collected at Popayan and in the more southern country of Quito. The specimens from the last-mentioned locality were sent to me by Professor Jameson, who had procured them in the warm forests of Papallacta, which I believe is the extreme limit of its range in a southerly direction. The intermediate country of Popayan would appear to be the centre of the area over which it extends, as I have never seen examples from any locality northward of Bogota or southward of Quito.

In its general contour the *Heliotrypha Parzudaki* is as elegant as in its colouring it is beautiful.

The male has a minute spot of luminous green on the forehead, at the base of the upper mandible; on the chin a patch of deep indigo-blue; down the centre of the throat a broad mark of metallic lilaceous crimson, below which is a broad crescentic band of glittering green; crown of the head, all the upper surface, wing-coverts, tail-coverts, flanks, and abdomen dark green, brightest on the upper part of the back, but in certain lights the crown of the head and sides of the neck appear to be black; wings dark purplish brown; two centre tail-feathers bronzy green; the remainder dark bronzy purple; vent and under tail-coverts white, with a faint streak of brown down the centre of each feather; bill black; feet dark brown.

The female has a bar of shining metallic green on the forehead; remainder of the upper surface and the abdomen grass-green; throat brown, with a large patch of white in the centre; tail as in the male, but the outer feathers slightly tipped with grey.

The Plate represents the two sexes, of the size of life, on the beautiful Orchid called *Catasetum callosum*, var. *grandiflorum*.