

PTEROGLOSSUS AZARÆ.

Azara's Araçari.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Pter. rostro stramineo-flavo ; mandibulæ superioris lateribus maculâ longitudinali rufâ.

Male.—Crown of the head black ; back of the neck dark chestnut-red ; upper surface very dark green ; primaries black, edged with very dark green ; rump deep blood-red ; cheeks and throat blackish chestnut, bounded below by a narrow line of deep black ; across the breast a broad crescentic mark of blood-red ; on the upper part of the abdomen a broad band of black tinged with green ; lower part of the abdomen and under tail-coverts yellow, stained with blood-red next the black band ; thighs olive ; bill delicate straw-yellow, with a broad streak of red along the sides of the upper mandible, bounded below by an interrupted narrow line of orange ; irides dark carmine-red ; orbits immediately round the eye dark greenish grey, inclining to indigo-blue, and with a patch of red at the anterior angle above, and another in the posterior angle behind the eye ; legs green.

Total length, $14\frac{3}{4}$ inches ; bill, $3\frac{5}{8}$; wing, 5 ; tail, $5\frac{3}{4}$; tarsi, 1.

Female.—Similar in colour, but with the chestnut hue of the throat paler, and the black mark bounding it below more conspicuous than in the male.

L'Aracari Azara, Levaill. Hist. Nat. des Ois. de Parad., Supp., p. 40. t. A.

Ramphastos Azara, Vieill. 2nde Edit. du Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat., tom. xxxiv. p. 283.—Ib. Ency. Méth. Orn., part iii. p. 1431.

Pteroglossus Azaræ, Vieill. Gal. des Ois., tom. ii. pl. et p. (not numbered).—Wagl. Syst. Av., *Pteroglossus*, sp. 3.—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. ii. p. 403, *Pteroglossus*, sp. 6.—Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av., *Pteroglossus*, sp. 6.—Sturm's Edit. of Gould's Mon. of Ramph., pl.

It gives me great pleasure to figure this, the true *P. Azaræ* of Levaillant, from very recently killed specimens sent to this country by Mr. Wallace from the Rio Negro on the Amazon ; by means of which I am enabled to give a representation of the colouring of the soft parts as they appear in life : it will be seen that they give a very beautiful appearance to the bird, and consequently add materially to its interest. Since the publication of the first edition of this work, numerous examples have been sent to this country, principally, however, by Sir Robert Schomburgk, who collected them during his expeditions into the interior of British Guiana. Little difference in size exists between this species and *P. flavirostris* ; it is, however, the smaller of the two ; but, with the exception of the bill, the two birds are precisely alike in their colouring : it is certainly one of the most elegant species of the genus, and it is much to be regretted that nothing is known of the habits and economy of so beautiful a bird.

The figures represent the two sexes of the size of life.