

PTEROGLOSSUS PÆCILOSTERNUS, Gould.

Double-banded Araçari.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Pter. rostro et corpore superiore ut in Ptero. pluricincto; corpore inferiore sulphureo, vittâ pectorali alterâ nigrâ, alterâ sanguineâ.

Head, neck and chest black; upper surface, wings and tail dark olive-green; rump blood-red; under surface yellow, stained with blood-red, and crossed by two bands, one on the breast black, and the other on the abdomen blood-red stained with black; thighs chestnut, slightly fringed with sulphur-yellow; along the culmen a broad mark of black, united to a mark of the same hue, which passes down the base and occupies the lower angle of the upper mandible, the sides of which are orange, passing into pale yellow at the tip; under mandible black; both surrounded by a narrow raised band of rich orange-yellow; irides brown; orbits grey; legs and feet pale green.

Total length, 18 inches; bill, $4\frac{1}{4}$; wing, 6; tail, $7\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi, $1\frac{3}{8}$.

L'Araçari à double ceinture, Le Vaill. Ois. de Parad., tom. ii. p. 32. pl. 11.

Pteroglossus pæcilosternus, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part XI. p. 147.—Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av., p. 94, *Pteroglossus*, sp. 14.

In the account of *Pteroglossus pluricinctus*, given in the first edition of this work, I suggested that I had never seen a specimen answering to Le Vaillant's *Araçari à double ceinture*, ventured an opinion that it was quite distinct from the *Pteroglossus Araçari*, with which Le Vaillant considered it identical, and that it was probably an accidental variety of my *P. pluricinctus*. Since that period I have received many examples from Peru, according most closely with Le Vaillant's figure and description, and I can now confidently affirm that it is not only quite distinct from *P. Araçari*, but also from *P. pluricinctus*. It is very nearly allied to the latter, but differs in having the second black band which crosses the breast of that species replaced by one of bright blood-red, and in the yellow of the under surface being less stained with red: here then we have one of Le Vaillant's hitherto doubtful species identified; and had that naturalist given the bird an appellation instead of referring it to the common species, I should have had much pleasure in adopting his name instead of proposing one myself.

The native habitat of this fine bird are the forests clothing the inner dip of the Peruvian and Columbian Andes. Strings of bills of this species, which had apparently been prepared as personal decorations by the natives, are occasionally sent from Popayan, whence I infer that the bird is very numerous in that part of the country.

It may be supposed by some that the present bird is merely a local variety of *P. pluricinctus*, and such may possibly be the case; but I must remark that all the examples from the localities above-mentioned resemble the figure here given, while those from the Upper Amazon and the Rio Negro as closely agree with *P. pluricinctus*: of course it becomes necessary in a monograph to give a figure of a bird exhibiting so marked a difference.

The figure is of the natural size.