

PTEROGLOSSUS ERYTHROPYGIUS, Gould.

Red-rumped Araçari.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Pter. dorso inferiore, uropygio, et caudæ tectricibus splendide sanguineis; corpore inferiore flavo, pectore superiore sanguineo tincto, inferiore vittâ coloribus nigro et sanguineo commixtis, fasciatâ.

Crown of the head, sides of the face, chin and upper part of the back shining greenish black; wings and tail dull brownish green; lower part of the back, rump and upper tail-coverts rich blood-red; under surface yellow, stained on the chest with blood-red, and crossed on the breast by a band of mingled black and blood-red; thighs chestnut; bill bordered at the base by a narrow line of dull white; the remainder of the bill yellowish horn-colour, with a broad stripe of black along the upper mandible near the cutting edge and a narrow line in the centre of the culmen; upper mandible black.

Total length, 18 inches; bill, 5; wing, $6\frac{1}{4}$; tail, $7\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $1\frac{1}{4}$.

Pteroglossus erythropygius, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part XI. p. 15.—Ib. Zool. of the Voy. of H.M.S. Sulphur, Birds, p. 45. pl. 28.—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. ii. p. 404, *Pteroglossus*, sp. 15.—Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av., p. 94, *Pteroglossus*, sp. 15.

THE great country lying to the northward of the Isthmus of Panama has a fauna which is in a great measure peculiarly its own; it is true, that generically many of the forms are the same as those of other tropical portions of America, but the species are unquestionably different. The accompanying Plate represents one if not two species of *Pteroglossus*, and there is at least another, belonging to the same genus, which appears to be exclusively an inhabitant of Central America, by which I would be understood to mean in a wide sense—Mexico. I have said that the accompanying Plate represents either one or two species; and it will be seen that some difference occurs in the figures which were taken from two unique specimens, one in my own collection, the other in the Museum of the United Service Institution. The latter, which is represented in the foremost figure, formed part of the collection made by R. B. Hinds, Esq., Surgeon R.N., the naturalist attached to the Expedition under Captain Sir Edward Belcher, R.N., of H.M.S. Sulphur, and was obtained at Realejo, on the shores of the Pacific in Central America: the precise locality in which the specimen in my own possession was procured is not known with certainty.

Mr. Hinds's bird differs from mine in being of a much larger size, in having the under mandible of a nearly uniform straw-white, and the breast much less stained with scarlet. If hereafter it should be found that the two birds are different species, the term *sanguineus* might not be an inappropriate name for the smaller bird. Both the specimens or species in question are nearly allied to the *Pteroglossus torquatus* of Wagler (*P. regalis* of Lichtenstein, and of the former edition of this work), but the total absence of the crescentic brown collar at the nape of the neck will at all times distinguish them from that species: the markings of their bills are also very different.

The specific name of *erythropygius* was given to this bird to indicate the rich scarlet colouring of its rump, which hue is also extended over the whole of the upper tail-coverts.

The figures are of the natural size.