

PHAËTHORNIS ZONURA, Gould.

Southern Hermit.

Phaëthornis zonura, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., part xxviii. p. 305.

THE group of little Hermits to which Bonaparte applied the generic name of *Pygmornis* appear to have representatives in every part of South America; at least species exist in all the hotter and temperate portions of that great country. One of them, *P. Adolphi*, flies to the northward of the Isthmus of Panama and even enters the confines of Mexico; some occur in New Granada and Ecuador; while others, again, inhabit the Guianas, Cayenne, and Brazil. The bird to which I have given the name of *P. zonura* appears to be the southern representative of the genus, since it is an inhabitant of Peru, and, I believe, of Bolivia; for it was in one or other of these countries that M. Warszewicz killed the specimen which graces my collection. I have also a single, much-mutilated specimen from Ecuador, which appears to belong to this species. The *P. zonura* must rank among the larger and more powerful of these little birds; it is more distinctly marked than any of them; and when its tail is outspread in flight, the rich rust colouring of the lower part of the back must present a striking contrast to the deep-black colouring of the tail-feathers. This species is somewhat allied to the *P. griseogularis*; but its great size, and also the characters above alluded to, will serve to distinguish it from that and every other species.

Crown of the head brown; back of the neck, back, and shoulders bronzy green; rump and upper tail-coverts rich reddish buff; all the under surface buff, palest on the throat; three outer tail-feathers on each side black at the base, with rich buffy tips; the fourth feather the same, except at the tip, where the outer half is buff and the inner half white; the two central prolonged feathers black at the base, largely tipped with white; bill black, except the basal half of the lower mandible, which is either yellow or flesh-colour; feet yellow.

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

The figures are of the size of life. The plant is the *Pilumna fragrans*.