

INTRODUCTION.

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as my experience enables me. To do this effectively it will be necessary to replace some of the species in the genera from which they have been separated, and to propose a further subdivision of the remainder. In so doing it must not be understood that I am desirous of increasing the number of genera; I merely wish to indicate by a distinctive appellation the sections into which the birds appear to be naturally divided. To particularize the provinces of South America over which the members of the various genera are distributed would be useless; for their dispersion may be said to be general, as they are found from Mexico to Bolivia on the western coast, and from Brazil to Venezuela on the eastern; few of the species, however, go very far either north or south, and still fewer are found in the West India Islands. The members of the genus *Amazilia*, as restricted, are all of somewhat large size, and are easily recognized, each of them having well-marked characters. There is but little difference in the outward appearance of the sexes. The equatorial regions of the Andes are their head-quarters; and it is there that we find the *A. pristina*, the *A. alticola*, the *A. Dumerili*, and the *A. leucophaea*. These four species, I consider, form a very natural section.

Genus AMAZILIA, *Reichenb.*

338. AMAZILIA PRISTINA . . . . . Vol. V. Pl. 303.  
*Phaethornis Amazili*, Jard. Nat. Lib. Humming-Birds, vol. ii. p. 152.  
*Pyrrhophæna Amazilia*, Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. Theil iii. p. 35.  
*Habitat.* The neighbourhood of Lima in Peru.
339. AMAZILIA ALTICOLA, *Gould* . . . . . Vol. V. Pl. 304.  
*Habitat.* The high lands of Central Peru; the precise locality uncertain.
340. AMAZILIA DUMERILI . . . . . Vol. V. Pl. 305.  
*Pyrrhophæna Dumerili*, Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. Theil iii. p. 36. note.  
*Habitat.* Ecuador, on the coast in the neighbourhood of Guayaquil, and on the Isle of Puna. Found also at Babahoyo by Mr. Fraser, who states that the bill is red with a black tip.
341. AMAZILIA LEUCOPHÆA, *Reichenb.* . . . . . Vol. V. Pl. 306.  
*Pyrrhophæna leucophaea*, Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. Theil iii. p. 35.  
*Habitat.* Southern Peru. Collected in the vicinity of the Volcano of Arequipa by M. Warszewicz.

I retain Dr. Cabanis's generic term *Pyrrhophæna* for the ten succeeding species:—

Genus PYRRHOPHÆNA, *Cab.*

342. PYRRHOPHÆNA CINNAMOMEA.  
*Amazilia corallirostris* . . . . . Vol. V. Pl. 307.  
*Ornismya cinnamomea*, Less. Rev. Zool. 1842, p. 175.  
*Ornismya rutila*, Delatt. L'Echo du Monde Savant, No. 45, Juin 15, 1843, col. 1069.  
*Pyrrhophæna corallirostris*, Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. Theil iii. p. 35, note.  
*Habitat.* Central America.

"This species," says Mr. Salvin, "seems to be an inhabitant of the hot sea-board only, and does not extend its vertical range to a greater elevation than 2000 feet. In such regions on the Pacific coast it is very abundant, and is, in fact, the commonest of the family—in some parts almost swarming. In every village numbers may be seen flitting about the blossoms of the orange and lime trees. Its horizontal range appears to be extensive, and may be said to include the whole of the southern portion of Guatemala, from the confines of Chiapas to the State of San Salvador, and probably also embraces the Balsam Coast of that republic, as Captain Taylor obtained examples on Tigré Island in the Bay of Fonseca."—*Ibis*, vol. i. p. 130.

"It is common about San Gerónimo; but seems not to be found in the colder and more elevated portions of the republic, neither occurring at Dueñas nor Coban. A nest with two young and the hen bird was brought to me Dec. 6th; the young were half-grown, and would have flown in about ten days. My specimens show that, as far as the feathers are concerned, the sexes are alike. A difference, however, exists in the bill,—that of the male having much more of the brilliant colour from which the species takes its name, in the upper mandible. In the young bird the upper mandible is black."—*Ibis*, vol. ii. pp. 268, 269.

343. PYRRHOPHÆNA YUCATANENSIS.  
*Amazilia Yucatanensis* . . . . . Vol. V. Pl. 308.  
*Habitat.* Yucatan.