

Genus CALLIPHLOX, *Boié*.

Perhaps the very commonest of the frill-necked Humming-Birds is the *C. amethystina*. It is more widely spread than many other species, since it inhabits all the countries from Brazil to Venezuela.

In this genus I have also placed the *C. Mitchelli*; but I have some doubt as to the propriety of so doing. The throats of the two birds, although beautifully coloured, are not luminous.

178. CALLIPHLOX AMETHYSTINA Vol. III. Pl. 159.
Trochilus brevicaudus, Spix, Av. Bras. tom. i. p. 79, tab.
 ——— *orthurus*, Jard. Nat. Lib. Humming-Birds, vol. ii. p. 60, pl. 8?
Cyanthus amethystinus, Id. ib. vol. ii. p. 143.
 ———? *orthura*, Id. ib. vol. ii. p. 143?

Habitat. Brazil, Demerara, Cayenne, and Trinidad.

Whether the *Ornismya orthura* of Lesson be a species or an old female of *C. amethystina* requires further investigation. Wherever the *C. amethystina* is found in Brazil, Trinidad, or Demerara, the *O. orthura* is found in its company—a fact which militates against its being a distinct species.

179. CALLIPHLOX AMETHYSTOIDES, *Less.*
Trochilus amethystoides, Jard. Nat. Lib. Humming-Birds, vol. ii. p. 62.
Cyanthus amethystoides, Id. ib. vol. ii. p. 143.
Calliphlox amethystoides, Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av. p. 84.
Habitat. Minas Geraes in Brazil.

In my account of *C. amethystina* I have regarded this species as identical with that bird; but M. Bourcier is still of opinion that it is distinct; and as I find that it is of smaller size, and the tint of the gorget is somewhat different, I defer to his opinion. It will not, however, be necessary to give a separate figure of it. Specimens from Minas Geraes are certainly more diminutive than from elsewhere.

180. CALLIPHLOX? MITCHELLI Vol. III. Pl. 160.
Habitat. Southern parts of New Granada and Ecuador.

I have now gone through the species of Humming-Birds distinguished for their diminutive size, the delicacy of their structure, and for their luminous gorgets. It is true that many other groups have their throats similarly adorned, such as the members of the genera *Oreotrochilus*, *Heliangelus*, &c.; but these birds are all of large size and of very different form, and as we proceed I think it will be seen that they are better placed hereafter. I proceed next, then, with the racket-tailed species—the *Spathura*, &c. I admit that there is no direct alliance between these and the former; but it will be recollected that I have stated that the Humming-Birds cannot be arranged in anything like a series of affinities. Here, then, we commence with a very different group; remarkable for the peculiar character of the tail in most of its members. Among these I place in the foremost rank the extraordinary bird bearing the specific name *mirabilis*. As any description, however accurate, must fail to give a correct idea of this singular species, I must refer my readers to the Plate, upon which it is correctly depicted.

Genus LODDIGESIA, *Gould*.

(*Loddiges*, nom. prop.)

Male.—Bill straight and longer than the head; wings diminutive; primaries rounded at the tip; outer tail-feather on each side very much prolonged, and terminating in a large spatule.

Female.—Unknown.

181. LODDIGESIA MIRABILIS, *Gould* Vol. III. Pl. 161.
Habitat. Chachapoyas in Peru.

The racket-tailed birds I have figured under the generic name of *Spathura* are spread over the temperate regions of the great Andean range of mountains from the northern parts of New Granada to Bolivia. Much confusion prevails with respect to the generic appellation of these birds. The case stands thus: in 1846 I proposed the term *Ocreatus*, and in 1850 substituted that of *Spathura*; while in 1849 Dr. Reichenbach employed that of *Steganurus*, which he changed in 1853 to *Steganura*. In the body of this work all the species are arranged under my own generic name, which I hope may be allowed to stand.