

Since writing my account of *Lafresnaya Gayi* I have received many additional examples, all of which had white tails tipped with purplish black; but I possess fully adult examples of a white-tailed bird named *Saulæ*, by M. Bourcier, in which the tippings are bronzy green. My specimens were brought by Delattre; but from what locality, is unknown. The difference mentioned seems to warrant the belief that the bird is distinct; and I therefore give it a place in this synopsis, notwithstanding the opinion to the contrary expressed in my account of *L. Gayi*.

Those who have not closely studied the Humming-Birds have but little idea how diversified are their forms; the birds next to be considered are unlike all the other members of the family. The species are short, thick-set birds, with a very peculiar style of plumage, have their crowns plated with metal-like feathers, and bills as straight and sharp as needles; and woe to any bird, I should say, which gave offence to the members of this genus.

I am exceedingly puzzled with respect to the species of this form; that is, I am at a loss to determine whether they are two, three, four, or five in number. First, with regard to *D. Johannaë*, whose under-surface is black, and frontal mark violet-blue; I have always regarded this colouring as indicative of the adult, but I am in doubt whether the skins which frequently accompany them from Bogota, and which assimilate in size and form, but differ in having a green frontlet and a dull-green upper and under surface, are the females or young males of this bird, or if they be distinct. Of the *D. Ludovicæ*, which comes from Bogota, I have many examples, all of which are very uniform in size and style of colouring. From Quito I have another bird assimilating to the *D. Ludovicæ* most closely in colouring, but which is about a fifth larger in all its admeasurements. Accompanying the specimens from this latter locality is one without any frontal mark whatever; in other respects it is precisely like the rest, and, I am sure, is a fully adult bird. Is this the female of the Quito birds, or a distinct species? I have never seen examples in this state of plumage among the numerous specimens sent from Bogota. I think I shall be right in regarding the Ecuadorian bird as distinct, and I therefore propose for it the name of *rectirostris*.

Genus DORYFERA, *Gould*.

(*Δόρυ*, hasta, et *φέρω*, fero; Lance-bill.)

Generic characters.

Male.—Bill long, basal half straight, apical half inclined upwards and pointed; wings of moderate size; tail rounded, the feathers broad and rigid; tarsi partly clothed; hind toe and nail as long as the middle toe and nail; forehead luminous; plumage adpressed.

Female.—I believe the female is destitute of the forehead-mark; but this is uncertain.

99. DORYFERA JOHANNÆ Vol. II. Pl. 87.

Hemistephania Johannaë, Reichenb. Aufz. der Col. p. 9.

Helianthea Johannaë, Reichenb. Troch. Enum. p. 6, pl. 731. figs. 4675-76.

Doryphora Johannaë, Cab et Hein. Mus. Hein. Theil iii. p. 78, note.

Habitat. New Granada.

100. DORYFERA LUDOVICÆ Vol. II. Pl. 88.

Hemistephania Ludovicæ, Reichenb. Aufz. der Col. p. 9.

Helianthea Ludovicæ, Reichenb. Troch. Enum. p. 6, pl. 731. figs. 4673-74.

Doryphora Ludovicæ, Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. Theil iii. p. 77.

Habitat. New Granada.

101. DORYFERA RECTIROSTRIS, *Gould*.

Bill and feet black; tarsi clothed with brown feathers; forehead brilliant glittering green; crown and back of the neck reddish bronze, passing into dull green on the back; upper tail-coverts washed with blue; tail black, tipped with greyish-brown, largely on the external feathers, slightly on the middle ones; under-surface olive; under tail-coverts grey; wings purplish brown.

Total length 5 inches; bill $1\frac{1}{8}$; wing $2\frac{1}{2}$; tail $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat. Ecuador.

How remarkable it is that development and even beauty should be bestowed upon the under tail-coverts of a bird! yet this is often found to be the case: the Marabou Stork may be cited as an instance in point among the larger birds, and the genera *Eriocnemis*, *Erythronota*, &c. among the Trochilidæ. In no group, however, is this