

PTEROGLOSSUS PLURICINCTUS.

Many-banded Araçari.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Mas. *Pter. rostro ad basin lineâ elevatâ flavâ cincto; culmine, lineâ mandibule superioris intrabasali, mandibulâque inferiore nigris; mandibule superioris lateribus aurantiaco-flavis, in flavescenti-albidum apicem versus transeuntibus: olivaceo-viridis; capite, gulâ, gutture gastræique fasciis duabus latis, nigris; gastræo anticè flavo, coccineo maculato, posticè uropygioque coccineis; crisso pallidè flavo; orbitæ pedesque saturatè plumbei.*

Fœm. *Regione paroticâ brunneâ; gutture posticè coccineo cincto.*

Male. A broad band of black advances from the nostrils along the whole of the culmen and forms a narrow belt down the sides of the upper mandible at its base; the elevated basal margin of the bill is yellow; the sides of the upper mandible beautiful orange yellow, fading into yellowish white towards the tip; under mandible wholly black with a yellow basal ridge; head, neck, and chest black; whole of the upper surface, except the rump, which is scarlet, dark olive green; breast marked with two broad bands of black, the upper separated from the throat by an intervening space of yellow dashed with red; a similar but broader space separates the two bands of black, the lower of which is bounded by scarlet, advancing as far as the thighs, which are brownish olive; under tail-coverts light yellow; naked space round the eyes, tarsi, and feet dark lead colour.

Female. Differs from the male in having the ear-coverts brown and a narrow belt of scarlet bordering the black of the throat.

Total length, 20 inches; *bill*, $4\frac{1}{2}$; *wings*, $6\frac{1}{2}$; *tail*, $8\frac{1}{2}$.

Pteroglossus pluricinctus, Gould, Proceedings of Zool. Soc., Part III.

ALTHOUGH I have not been able to see the identical bird which Le Vaillant described and figured under the title of *L'Araçari à double ceinture*, and which was considered by that naturalist as merely a variety of the Common Araçari (*Pter. Aracari*), still I am induced to believe that it is identical with the present species. The extreme rarity of the bird, and the consequent small number of specimens that have reached Europe, will in some degree account for the neglect of subsequent writers, who appear either to have entirely overlooked it, or to have taken Le Vaillant's opinion as well grounded. If, however, other observers had had the opportunity which I have possessed of examining several specimens, they would, I doubt not, have come to the same conclusion as myself, and consider it to be not only a distinct species, but one of the most beautiful of the group to which it belongs. I can only attribute Le Vaillant's error to the circumstance of his having most probably seen not more than one or two specimens, and those most likely in an inferior condition. Beautiful examples of both sexes form part of the Brazilian collection at Vienna: the sexes were ascertained by actual dissection by the celebrated naturalist M. Natterer, who obtained them in the remote districts of the Brazilian territory.