

RAMPHASTOS VITELLINUS, Illiger.

Sulphur-and-white-breasted Toucan.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Ramph. rostro nigro, fasciâ basali cœruleo-canâ posticè lineâ nigrâ cinctâ: niger; pectore aurantiaco-flavo in album ad latera et anticè transeunte; torque pectorali caudæque tectricibus coccineis.

Beak black, with a basal band of greyish blue bounded posteriorly by a narrow band of black; naked space round the eye blueish lead colour; general plumage black; breast orange yellow in the centre, becoming gradually paler towards the side, where it is quite white, especially on the cheeks and throat; the orange colour of the breast is bounded by a pectoral band of scarlet, the upper and under tail-coverts being of the same colour.

Total length, 17 or 18 inches; *bill*, 5; *wings*, 7; *tail*, $6\frac{1}{2}$; *tarsi*, $1\frac{3}{4}$.

Le Pignancoin. Levaill., Ois. de Parad., vol. 2. pl. 7.

Ramphastos vitellinus. Illig.—Lichtenst.—Swains., Zool. Illust., vol. 1. p. 56.

WERE it not that the blue band at the base of the beak fades immediately after death, the present species would be easily distinguished: independently of this, however, the white ear-coverts and sides of the chest are sufficiently characteristic to distinguish it from all others. It appears to have been separated from the rest of its genus by Illiger, and has been figured by Mr. Swainson in his "Zoological Illustrations." It inhabits Surinam, Cayenne, Guiana, and the borders of the Amazon, in which countries its beautiful yellow chest is held in high esteem by the natives, by whom its skin is often prepared for ornaments.