

## INTRODUCTION.

tail-coverts being white and of the ordinary length, and by the yellowishness of the throat. In these the crimson pectoral band is narrow, and the naked space around the eye is of the same blue colour as the legs.

5. *Ramph. carinatus*; with the bill of several colours, including blue and green.
6. *Ramph. Swainsonii*; with the bill divided by a diagonal line, above which it is yellow, and with the crimson pectoral band separated by a white crescent from the yellow of the neck.

D. The fourth and last section of the Toucans comprehends those in which the upper tail-coverts are crimson, and consequently correspond in colour with the under tail-coverts. In the birds thus distinguished the throat is orange, generally more intense in the middle, and either fading gradually backwards, or giving place to a defined pale yellow band, separating the throat from the crimson which immediately succeeds it. The crimson of the breast varies in extent, according to the species, from a broad band to one of so great breadth as to occupy the entire breast. In one of the species the naked space surrounding the eye is blue; in the others it is red.

7. *Ramph. vitellinus*; with the bill black, its basal band blue, and the yellow of the throat fading into white on the sides and face.
8. *Ramph. Ariel*; with the bill black, its basal band yellow, and the deep yellow of the throat bounded behind by a defined pale yellow band.
9. *Ramph. bicolorus*; with the bill green, its basal band black, the yellow of the throat becoming paler round the whole of its circumference, and the crimson occupying the entire breast.

II. The Araçaris, possessing as a part of the family character a bill of great proportional size, have that organ nevertheless comparatively less developed than the Toucans. The tail furnishes a tangible distinctive character in its graduated form; it is also more lengthened. The most constant colour observable in these birds is green, which, in various shades from olive to grass green, occupies the upper surface of the back, wings, and tail, with the exception (generally) of the upper tail-coverts; in one or two species only is the space between the shoulders of a different colour. Except the green of the back, the colour of every other part varies with the different species, although some are more generally met with than others; such, for instance, is the crimson of the upper tail-coverts, which exists in all but a few species; such also the chestnut or black of the head and neck, which prevails throughout the greater part