

remains on the upper portions of the trees without descending to the lower branches or to the earth: it sits a long time motionless, watching for insects which may pass within its reach, and which it seizes with adroitness; it is not gregarious, but dwells either in solitude or in pairs; its flight, which is rapid and performed in vertical undulations, is not prolonged. These birds are so tame as to admit of a near approach; I have seen them killed with a stick. They do not migrate, and they are never heard except in the love season; their note then consists but of the frequent repetition of the syllables *pio* in a strong, sonorous, and melancholy voice: the male and female answer each other. They form their nests on the trees by digging into the lower part of the nest of a species of ant known by the name of *cupiy*, until they have made a cavity sufficiently large, in which the female deposits in the month of September two white eggs according to some, and four according to others. I have seen the male clinging to a tree, after the manner of the Woodpeckers, and occupied in digging a nest with his beak, while the female remained tranquil on a neighbouring tree."

Azara states that he has only seen this bird from Paraguay; I have, however, received it from the southern parts of Brazil; and the late John Natterer obtained examples at Mattodentro in November and December, and at Ypanema in February, May, June, July, and August; I am inclined, therefore, to believe that it has a more extensive range than is generally supposed.

The Plate represents the two sexes, of the size of life. The Plant is the *Chamædorea Ernesti-Augusti* (fœm.).