

PSITTACUS MAGNIFICUS.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Rostrum aduncum: mandibula superiore mobili,
cera instructa.

Nares in rostri basi.

Lingua carnosa, obtusa, integra.

Pedes scanforii.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 139.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS.

PSITTACUS brachyurus subcristatus niger,
fronte humerisque gilvo maculatis, cauda me-
dio rubra nigro fasciata.

Novæ Hollandiæ insula, dignior sane quæ Conti-
nens Australis vocetur, alter quasi physicorum orbis,
plurima animalia, reliquis regionibus incognita pergit
suppeditare. Nulli tamen alii generi uberior accessit
specierum copia quam psittacino, quarum lautissimæ
vel ipsius Novæ Hollandiæ vel insularum adjacentium
sunt incolæ.

Inter species hæc novas vix venustior est Psittaco
Magnifico, qui sane mensura maximos Psittacos *Mac-*
cawes dictos, physicisque notissimos æquat; in illa au-
tem generis divisione recte disponitur, cui cauda non
lanceæ ad instar producta et acuminata est, sed apice
quadrato, seu ex rectricibus fere æqualibus constat.

Color generalis huic avi niger est. Caput leviter cristatum plumis densissime vestitur, quarum extremitates maculis gilvis, ut plurimum scatere solent. Maculantur quoque humeri eodem modo, et in aliquibus speciminibus latera corporis femoraque fasciis gilvis anguste transverseque notantur. Rostrum maximum et validissimum cornei est coloris, seu obscure fusci. Crura pedesque crassa et robusta, rostroque fere concoloria. Caudæ imo colori, coccineo nempe, transverse superadditæ sunt fasciæ numerosæ nigerimæ; et utrinque prope rachin pennarum coccineus color fere in flavum languescit. Basin apicemque cauda penitus nigra est.

Tota avis tam magnificum ostendit aspectum ut inter principes sui generis merito numeretur. Specimina aliquando paululum variant: color scilicet caudæ coccineus non in fascias numerosas nigro distinctas disponitur, sed latam transversamque aream intemerati ruboris in medio exprimit.



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Wm. Brownlee.

T H E
MAGNIFICENT COCKATOO.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill hooked. Upper mandible moveable.
Nostrils round, placed in the base of the bill.
Tongue fleshy, broad, blunt at the end.
Legs short. Toes formed for climbing, viz. two forward and two backward.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

EVEN-TAILED BLACK PARROT, with the head somewhat crested, the front and shoulders spotted with buff, the middle of the tail red crossed with black bars.

THE BANKSIAN COCKATOO.

Latham's Synopsis. Suppl. p. 63.

New Holland, which may not unjustly lay claim to the more dignified title of the Southern Continent, may be considered as a kind of new world to the Naturalist; and has already afforded several animals unknown to every other part of the globe. To no other genus, however, have such large accessions of new species been added as to that of *Psittacus*; of which some of the most superb kinds appear to be natives of New Holland, and some of the Southern Islands.

Of these newly-discovered birds, one of the most august in its appearance is that represented on the plate annexed. In size it is equal to the great Macaws already so well known to Naturalists; but it belongs to a different section in the genus, and instead of being furnished with a lanceolate tail, as in those birds, it has that part even at the end, or consisting of feathers of nearly equal length.

The general color of this bird is a deep black: the head is very full of feathers, and slightly crested, and is commonly marked in front with several buff-coloured spots, owing to the tips of the feathers on that part being of this colour. Several spots of buff are also scattered over the shoulders, and in some specimens the sides and thighs are slightly barred with narrow fasciæ of buff. The bill is of a deep brown, or horn-color, and is uncommonly large and strong. The legs and feet are thick and stout, and of nearly the same colour with the bill. The tail is most beautifully barred with deep scarlet and black; the first being the ground or predominant color, on which the latter is disposed in numerous fasciæ. Near the shafts of the feathers on each side, the scarlet gradually declines into yellow: at the base and tip the tail is wholly black.

The whole bird is of so superior a magnificence as justly to be regarded as one of the finest of its tribe. It is subject to some variation, and in some specimens the scarlet on the tail, instead of being barred with black, forms one large transverse band in the middle.



Shaw, George. 1791. "The Magnificent Cockatoo, *Pisttacus magnificus* [Pl. 50]." *The Naturalist's Miscellany* 2(XVIII), <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.310702>.

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