



PSITTACUS EXIMIUS.

THE NONPAREIL PARROT.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Rostrum aduncum: mandibula superiore mobili; cera instructa.

Nares in rostri basi.

Lingua carnofa, obtusa, integra.

Pedes scanforii.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 139.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

Psittacus macrourus varius, capite gula pectore criffoque coccineis, dorso nigro flavo-viridi undulato, alis caudaque cœruleis.

Rostrum pallidum. Pedes nigricantes. Rectrices duæ intermediae virides.

PSITTACUS EXIMIUS.—*Vivarium Naturæ. Tab. 93.*



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill hooked. Upper mandible moveable.

Nostrils roundish, 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.

Long-tailed variegated Parrot, with head, throat, breast and vent crimson; back black undulated with yellow-green, blue wings and tail.

The two middle tail-feathers are green.

NONPAREIL PARROT.—*Naturalist's Miscellany*. Pl. 93.

THE vast Island or rather Continent of Australia, Australasia, or New Holland, which has so lately attracted the particular attention of European navigators and naturalists, seems to abound in scenes of peculiar wildness and sterility; while the wretched natives of many of those dreary districts seem less elevated above the inferior animals than in any other part of the known world; Caffraria itself not excepted; as well as less endowed

duced with the power of promoting a comfortable existence by an approach towards useful arts and industry.

It is in these savage regions however that Nature seems to have poured forth many of her most highly ornamented products with unusual liberality : where, in particular, she appears to have stationed birds, superior perhaps in elegance to those of most other climes ; and which display their richly-varied plumage in scenes unknown to mankind in a civilised state, and where their beauties can only be contemplated by the eyes of barbarians.

Amidst the number of these admired animals, the species represented on the annexed plate may justly claim a distinguished place. It may indeed be doubted whether any bird can exhibit a plumage more elegant, or colours of a nobler hue. These are so accurately expressed on the plate, as well as mentioned in the specific character, that it becomes unnecessary to particularise them here. It therefore remains only to add, that the size of this species is equal to that of the Pennantian, or Splendid Parrot, to which it is also nearly allied in shape and general disposition of colours.



Shaw, George. 1794. "The Nonpareil Parrot, *Psittacus eximius* [Pl. 2]." *Zoology of New Holland* 1, 1–3. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.312536>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/126030>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.312536>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/312536>

Holding Institution

Museums Victoria

Sponsored by

Atlas of Living Australia

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Not in copyright

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.