

Bill bluish-black, the lower mandible greyish-blue, as are the feet, the scutella and claws black. Iris bluish-black. The general colour of the upper parts is deep glossy black, the head with blue reflections, the back with green. Crown of the head yellow, tinged with orange. Quills blackish-brown, the outer primaries with seven rows of white spots. Two middle tail-feathers black, two next of the same colour, but with three cream-coloured spots on the edge of the outer web towards the end; two next black at the base, cream-coloured towards the end, black at the tip; two next cream-coloured, with little black at the base, and a mere touch of black on the tip; two next of the same colour, with very little black at the base; the two outermost, which are very short, rounded, and generally concealed, barred with black and cream-colour. A white band from the base of the mandible passes under the eye, and there is a very slender line of the same behind it. Throat, fore neck, and anterior part of the breast, white; the rest of the under parts also white, but barred with black.

Length  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches, extent of wings 16; bill along the ridge  $1\frac{2}{12}$ , along the edge  $\frac{7}{12}$ ; tarsus  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , middle toe and claw  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , of hind toe and claw  $1\frac{1}{4}$ .

Adult Female.

The female wants the yellow patch on the crown of the head, and has the line of white behind the eye rather more conspicuous, but in other respects resembles the male.

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## BANDED THREE-TOED WOODPECKER.

+ *PICUS HIRSUTUS*, Vieill.

PLATE CCLXIX.—MALE AND FEMALE.

The difference between this bird and that described under the name of *Picus tridactylus* was unknown to me until clearly pointed out by the minute and accurate description of Mr. SWAINSON in the Fauna Boreali-Americana. Indeed I had looked upon it as the young of the species just mentioned. Not having met with it myself, I can only refer you to the very short notice of Dr. RICHARDSON, who says: "This bird exists in all the forests of spruce-fir lying between Lake Superior and the Arctic Sea, and it is the most common Woodpecker north of the Great Slave Lake. It much



*Banded three-toed Woodpecker.*

*1. Male 2. Female.*



resembles the *P. villosus* (by which I presume is meant *P. canadensis*, as already explained) in its habits, except that it seeks its food principally on decaying trees of the pine tribe, in which it frequently makes holes large enough to bury itself. It does not migrate."

I have represented the male and the female, from specimens lent to me by the Council of the Zoological Society of London.

PICUS HIRSUTUS, Vieill. Ois. de l'Amer., vol. ii. p. 124.

PICUS (APTERNUS) TRIDACTYLUS, *Common Three-toed Woodpecker*, Swains. and Rich.

F. Bor. Amer., vol. ii. p. 311.

COMMON THREE-TOED WOODPECKER, *Picus hirsutus*, Aud. Orn. Biog., vol. v. p. 184.

Male, 9; wing,  $4\frac{5}{12}$ .

From Lake Superior to the Arctic Sea. Abundant. Resident.

Adult Male.

Bill about the length of the head, straight, strong, angular, depressed at the base, compressed toward the tip, which is very slightly truncate and cuneate. Upper mandible with the dorsal line straight, the ridge very narrow, the sides sloping and flat, the lateral angle much nearer the edge, which is sharp, direct, and overlapping. Lower mandible with the angle short and rather wide, the dorsal line straight, the ridge narrow, the sides convex, the edges inflected, the tip pointed. Nostrils oblong, basal, concealed by the feathers, and placed near the margin.

Head large, ovate; neck rather short; body full. Feet very short; tarsus short, compressed, feathered anteriorly more than one-third down, scutellate in the rest of its extent, as well as behind on the inner side; toes three, the first wanting; the fourth or outer reversed toe considerably longer than the third, which is united to the inner at the base; all scutellate above. Claws large, much curved, compressed, laterally grooved, very acute.

Plumage very soft, full, blended. A large tuft of reversed stiffish feathers on each side of the base of the upper mandible, concealing the nostrils; the feathers in the angle of the lower mandible also stiffish and directed forwards. Wings rather long; the first quill very small, being only eleven-twelfths long, the second five-twelfths shorter than the third, which is one-twelfth shorter than the fourth, this being the longest, but scarcely exceeding the fifth; secondaries broad and rounded. Tail of moderate length, cuneate, of twelve feathers, of which the lateral, which are rounded and unworn, are only one inch long, the next, also unworn, are one inch and one-twelfth shorter than the middle.

Bill bluish-grey, dusky toward the end. Feet bluish-grey, the scutella and claws black. The general colour of the upper parts is deep glossy black,

the head with blue reflections, the back and wings tinged with brown. The tufts over the nostrils are dull yellow; the anterior part of the head pale yellow, spotted with white; a band of white, with small dusky lines, passes from the angle of the mouth to the occiput; the back is transversely banded with white; the quills are brownish-black, spotted and tipped with white, the four longest primaries with seven spots on the outer, and five on the inner web, on most of the secondaries five on each web. The four middle tail-feathers are black, the next black, largely tipped with white, the rest white, but except the outer small feathers, with a black band at the base. The lower parts are white, excepting the sides, and lower wing-coverts, which are banded with black.

Length to end of tail 9 inches; bill along the ridge 1, along the edge of lower mandible  $1\frac{3}{12}$ ; wing from flexure  $4\frac{5}{12}$ ; tail  $3\frac{1}{2}$ ; tarsus  $\frac{9\frac{1}{2}}{12}$ ; second toe  $\frac{4}{12}$ , its claw  $\frac{4\frac{1}{2}}{12}$ ; third toe  $\frac{7}{12}$ , its claw  $\frac{6}{12}$ ; fourth toe  $\frac{7\frac{1}{2}}{12}$ , its claw  $\frac{6}{12}$ .

Adult Female.

The female, which is somewhat smaller, differs from the male in wanting the yellow patch on the head, the whole of that part being black, with small white spots.

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## RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER.

+PICUS CAROLINUS, *Linn.*

PLATE CCLXX.—MALE AND FEMALE.

Much of what I have said respecting the habits of several of our Spotted Woodpeckers applies to the present species, which differs, however, in the greater extent of its migration in the spring and summer months, when the greater number of those which return from the south to our Middle and Eastern Districts proceed considerably farther northward than the Hairy Woodpecker, although not so far as the Canadian. In winter I have found the Red-bellied Woodpecker the most abundant of all in the pine barrens of the Floridas, and especially on the plantations bordering the St. John's river, where on any day it would have been easy to procure half a hundred. Indeed, on this account, and from its well-known notes, the officers and men



W. H.

*Banded three-toed Woodpecker.*

*1. Male 2. Female.*



Audubon, John James. 1842. "Banded Three-Toed Woodpecker, *Picus hirsutus*, Vieill. [Pl. 269]." *The birds of America : from drawings made in the United States and their territories* 4, 268–270. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.319384>.

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