

form; but those minute shadings which are attempted to be embodied by the pen, are absolutely beyond the reach of precise language.

THE SHINING STARLING.

THE plumage of this bird is in fact extremely glossy. The eye is struck by the brilliant shades which alternately appear and disappear according to the motions of the bird; in the sun they absolutely dazzle. A velvet black colour, a green, shaded with blue, the purple and gold mixed and intermingled with a delightful skill, compose the ground of that rich ornament in point of hue, which this bird possesses. A white stripe, which extends longitudinally on the wings, adds to the relief and the richness of these various colours. The beak and the feet are black. The size of this bird is about that of the common blackbird, and the quill feathers of the tail are very much sloped.

This beautiful starling forms a part of the superb cabinet of M. J. Temmink, of Amsterdam,