

golden gorget on its breast. He presumes, with much probability, that it is a young individual, which has been caught at the period when they put off their first feathers in order to assume that rich covering, which, in this species of birds, is the attribute of an age already advanced*. The bird, which Viellot has described in the present instance, came from Surinam.

A small space, of a golden red colour, shines upon the dull grey colour of its breast; the rest of the under part of the body is of a cinereous grey; a dull green, which is slightly tinged with a golden hue, covers the top part of the head, the neck, and the body, as well as the upper covert feathers of the wings, the quill feathers of which are violet; those of the tail are green, and the two middle ones have their extremities white.

To this same ingenious naturalist we are indebted for the knowledge of another species of humming birds, which he calls the *blue-throated* one. Its throat is, in fact, of a beautiful blue colour, imitating that of sapphire; but this brilliant hue is only perceivable

* It is not till after the first moulting that the humming birds assume their lively and brilliant colours.