PLATALEA AJAJA.

CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Rostrum planiusculum: apice dilatato, orbiculato,
plano.

Pedes tetradactyli, femipalmati.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 231.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

PLATALEA corpore sanguineo.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 231.

PLATALEA rosea.

Briss. Av. 5. p. 356. t. 30.

PLATALEA brasiliensis AJAJA dicta.

Marcgr. bras. 204.

Plataleæ leucorodiæ Linnæi, seu communi, corporis forma simillima est eximia hæc avis; coloribus autem longe discrepat: universa enim, exceptis rostro pedibusque, pulcherrime rosea est, alarum parte superiori dorsoque phœniceis. Fertur autem ætate grandior pleneque et perfecte plumata, tota esse penitus læte phœnicea, vel etiam coccinea; collumque inferius torque seu cingulo nigro ornari. Rostrum fusco-pallet. Crura fere nigricant. Vivit eodem modo quo Platalea com-

munis, seu leucorodia, littora nempe locaque aquosa
quærens, animaliaque minora, ranas scilicet, vermes,
et alia ejusmodi depascens. Americam incolit Austra-
lem.

THE
ROSE-COLOURED SPOON-BILL.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill flattish, with dilated, orbicular, flat tip.

Feet 4-toed, femi-palmated.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

SPOONBILL with crimson plumage.

SPATULE couleur de rose.

Buff. pl. enl. n. 165.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL.

Lath. Syn. 3. p. 16.

This elegant bird, which is a native of South America, in its general shape bears a near resemblance to the *Platalea leucorodia* of Linnæus, or common Spoon-bill, but differs widely in color; the whole bird, except the beak and legs, being generally of a fine full rose-colour, which on the upper part of the wings and the back, deepens almost into crimson. It is said however, that the bird, when advanced in age, and in full perfection of plumage, is entirely of a vivid crimson, or even scarlet, with the addition of a black circle or collar round the lower part of the neck. The bill is of a

pale brown: the legs blackish. In its manner of life it resembles the European or common Spoonbill; frequenting the shores and watery places, and feeding on the smaller aquatic animals, as frogs, worms, &c.

Shaw, George. 1792. "The Rose-Coloured Spoon-Bill, Platalea ajaja [Pl. 90]."
The Naturalist's Miscellany 3(XXX), <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.304510>.

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