Length $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches, extent of wings 11; bill along the back $\frac{5}{12}$, along the edge $\frac{7}{12}$; tarsus $\frac{7}{12}$.

Adult Female.

The female is paler in the tints, the colour above being light brownish-grey, the lower parts much lighter, the throat-feathers broadly margined with dull white. The forehead and wing-coverts are but slightly tinged with red, and the hind neck is less blue than in the male.

Length $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Young Bird.

The young resembles the female.

THE WILD ORANGE.

CATRUS AURANTIUM, *Linn.*

THE BLUE-HEADED PIGEON, OR GROUND DOVE.

+STARNÆNAS CYANOCEPHALA, *Linn.*

PLATE CCLXXXIV.—MALE AND FEMALES.

A few of these birds migrate each spring from the Island of Cuba to the Keys of Florida, but are rarely seen, on account of the deep tangled woods in which they live. Early in May 1832, while on a shooting excursion with the commander of the United States Revenue Cutter Marion, I saw a pair of them on the western side of Key West. They were near the water, picking gravel, but on our approaching them they ran back into the thickets, which were only a few yards distant. Several fishermen and wreckers informed us that they were more abundant on the "Mule Keys;" but although a large party and myself searched these islands for a whole day, not one did we discover there. I saw a pair which I was told had been caught when young on the latter Keys, but I could not obtain any other information respecting them, than that they were fed on cracked corn and rice, which answered the purpose well.

I have represented three of these Pigeons on the ground, with some of

the creeping plants which grew in the place where I saw the pair mentioned above.

COLUMBA CYANOCEPHALA, Linn. Syst. Nat., vol. i. p. 282.

BLUE-HEADED PIGEON, *Columba cyanocephala*, Aud. Orn. Biog., vol. ii. p. 411.

Male, $12\frac{1}{4}$, $17\frac{1}{2}$.

Accidental on the southernmost Florida Keys in summer only.

Adult Male.

Bill straight, and short, rather slender, compressed; upper mandible with a tumid fleshy covering at the base, a convex declinate obtuse tip, of which the margins are acute and overlapping; lower mandible with the angle near the extremity, which is compressed and rounded. Nostrils medial, oblique, linear. Head small and compressed; the general form robust, resembling that of many Partridges. Legs short and of moderate length; tarsus covered anteriorly and laterally with quincuncial sub-hexagonal scales, rounded and scaly behind; toes scutellate, free, margined; claws rather small, arched, compressed, flat beneath, obtuse.

Plumage compact all over. Wings short, rounded, third, fourth and fifth quills longest and almost equal; second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth slightly cut out on the outer web. Tail of moderate length, slightly rounded, of twelve broad rounded feathers.

Bill bright blue above, the fleshy parts at the base bright carmine. Iris very dark brown. Scales of the feet carmine, the interspaces white; claws bluish-grey. The general colour of the plumage above is a rich deep chocolate, slightly tinged with olive, beneath brownish-red, lighter on the middle of the breast, the sides and under tail coverts approaching to the tint of the back. The upper part of the head bright blue, encircled by a band of deep black, broader on the occiput, and very narrow in front; a band of white under the eye meeting its fellow on the chin, a broad patch of black on the fore-neck, margined with white beneath, and on the sides spotted with bright blue.

Length $12\frac{1}{4}$ inches, extent of wings $17\frac{1}{2}$; bill along the ridge $\frac{1}{2}$, along the edge 1; tarsus $1\frac{1}{4}$, middle toe $1\frac{1}{4}$; weight $10\frac{1}{4}$ oz.

The beautiful Cypress represented in this plate is quite abundant on all the dry Keys of the Floridas, and is also found in many parts of the interior of the peninsula.

Blue-headed Ground Dove or Pigeon.
1. Male. 2. Female.

Drawn from Nature by J. J. Audubon. F.R.S. &c.

Lith. & Printed & Col'd by J. T. Bowen. Phil.

Audubon, John James. 1842. "The Blue-Headed Pigeon, or Ground Dove, *Starnaenas cyanocephala*, Linn. [Pl. 284]." *The birds of America : from drawings made in the United States and their territories* 5, 23–24.

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