

$5\frac{4}{12}$, along the edge of lower mandible $5\frac{2}{12}$; wing from flexure $11\frac{1}{4}$; tail $4\frac{1}{4}$; bare part of tibia $2\frac{1}{2}$; hind toe $1\frac{1}{2}$, its claw $\frac{5}{12}$; second toe $1\frac{1}{2}$, its claw $\frac{6}{12}$; third toe $2\frac{8}{12}$, its claw $\frac{7}{12}$; fourth toe $2\frac{4}{12}$, its claw $\frac{5}{12}$.

The Female is similar to the male, but somewhat less.

The young in its second plumage has the bill dusky, tinged with yellow, the bare part of the head dusky; the feet blackish-brown, the head, neck and lower parts are greyish-brown, the head and greater part of the neck marked with small longitudinal streaks of white, of which there are two on each feather. All the upper parts are blackish-green, glossy in a less degree than those of the adult.

On comparing adult American specimens with others obtained on the old continent, I can perceive no difference between them. A young Mexican bird, and one from India, are also precisely similar. I cannot therefore entertain a doubt as to the identity of our bird with the *Tantalus Falcinellus* of LATHAM and other European writers, which has been shewn by SAVIGNY to be the Black Ibis of the ancients.

SCARLET IBIS.

+IBIS RUBRA, *Linn.*

PLATE CCCLIX.—ADULT MALE AND YOUNG.

It was supposed by WILSON, and since his time by others, that this brilliantly coloured Ibis is not uncommon in the southern parts of the United States. This opinion, however, is quite erroneous, and I have found the Scarlet Ibis less numerous than even the Glossy Ibis; indeed I have not met with more than three individuals in a state of liberty, in the whole range of the United States. These birds occurred at Bayou Sara, in Louisiana, on the 3d of July, 1821. They were travelling in a line, in the manner of the White Ibis, above the tops of the trees. Although I had only a glimpse of them, I saw them sufficiently well to be assured of their belonging to the present species, and therefore I have thought it proper to introduce it into our Fauna. WILSON's figure, I believe, was taken from a living specimen, not, however, procured within the limits of the United States, and which

was kept for some time in Peale's Museum in Philadelphia. My drawing of the adult male, and that of the immature bird, were made from specimens also procured beyond our limits. It is said that the habits of this bird are very similar to those of the White Ibis, of which I give you a long account; but, as I have not had opportunities of observing them, I judge it better to abstain from offering any remarks on this subject.

SCARLET IBIS, *Tantalus ruber*, Wils. Amer. Orn., vol. viii. p. 41.

IBIS RUBRA, Bonap. Syn., p. 311.

SCARLET IBIS, Nutt. Man., vol. ii. p. 84.

SCARLET IBIS, *Ibis rubra*, Aud. Orn. Biog., vol. v. p. 62.

Adult, 29; wing, $11\frac{1}{4}$.

Accidental. Three specimens seen by me in Louisiana.

Bill, feet, and bare parts of head, pale lake; plumage bright scarlet, excepting the quills, which are white, and the terminal portion of the outer four primaries, which are bluish-black. Young in first plumage with the bill and feet brownish-grey, the bare parts of the head pale flesh-colour; plumage of head, neck, and upper parts, brownish-grey, of lower, white.

THE WHITE IBIS.

+IBIS ALBA, *Linn.*

PLATE CCCLX.—ADULT MALE AND YOUNG.

Sandy Island is remarkable as a breeding-place for various species of water and land birds. It is about a mile in length, not more than a hundred yards broad, and in form resembles a horse-shoe, the inner curve of which looks toward Cape Sable in Florida, from which it is six miles distant. At low water, it is surrounded to a great distance by mud-flats abounding in food for wading and swimming birds, while the plants, the fruits, and the insects of the island itself, supply many species that are peculiar to the land. Besides the White Ibis, we found breeding there the Brown Pelican, the Purple, the Louisiana, the White, and the Green Herons, two species of Gallinule, the Cardinal Grosbeak, Crows, and Pigeons. The vegetation con-



W. H.
Garter Ibis.

1. Adult male 2. Young second. Autumn.



Audubon, John James. 1843. "Scarlet Ibis, *Ibis rubra*, Linn. [Pl. 359]." *The birds of America : from drawings made in the United States and their territories* 6, 53–54. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.319473>.

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