tibia bare for a short space; tarsus very short, little compressed, anteriorly with a series of small scutella; toes three, connected by entire webs, the outer and middle toes nearly equal. Claws strong, of moderate length, arched, acute, that of the inner toe much curved. Plumage close, blended, soft. Wings short, narrow, curved, acute; the first quill longest; secondaries short and rounded. Tail very short, slightly rounded, of sixteen feathers.

THE TUFTED PUFFIN.

†MORMON CIRRHATUS, *Lath.*

PLATE CCCCLXII.—MALE.

The specimen from which I drew the figure of this singular looking bird, was procured at the mouth of the Kennebec river, in Maine. It was shot by a fisherman gunner, while standing on some floating ice, in the winter of 1831–32. No other individual was seen. I could not obtain any information respecting its habits; but as the bird was in tolerable order, I hope that my figures of it will prove not unacceptable. It was a male, and appeared to be adult. My friend, the Prince of MUSIGNANO, mentions this species as being an inhabitant of the seas between North America and Kamtschatka, being, he adds, often found on the western coasts of the United States in winter.

ALCA CIRRHATA, *Lath. Ind. Orn.*, vol. ii. p. 791.

MORMON CIRRHATUS, *Bonap. Syn.*, p. 429.

TUFTED MORMON or PUFFIN, *Nutt. Man.*, vol. ii. p. 539.

TUFTED PUFFIN, *Mormon cirrhatus*, *Aud. Orn. Biog.*, vol. iii. p. 364.

Male, 15, 22½.

Extremely rare and accidental on the coast of the United States in winter. Common in the Arctic Seas, and on the north-west coast of America.

Adult Male.

Bill about the length of the head, nearly as high as long, extremely compressed, at the base as high as the head, furrowed on the sides. Upper mandible with a horny rim along the basal margin, its dorsal line convex to the

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Act. ornith. vol. 1. p. 171.

Mormon circulator, Lath. p. 171.

Prince of Mexicana, vol. 11. p. 523.

Prince of Mexicana, vol. 11. p. 304.

Male, 13, 22.

Extremely rare and confined to the coast of the United States in winter. Common in the Arctic Sea, and the northwest coast of America.

Adult Male.

Bill about the length of the head, nearly as high as long, extremely compressed, at the base as high as the head, broader on the sides. Upper mandible with a horny rim along the basal margin, its dorsal line convex to the

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

Typed J. J. Audubon
1. White & Reddish

18th Printed & Col'd by W. Brown, Philad^a

middle, or along the extent of a long, narrow, rounded dorsal prominence, which extends from the base to the first groove, afterwards curved in the fourth of a circle, the ridge narrow, in its basal half rounded, narrower and rather sharp towards the end, the sides slightly convex, and marked with four curved transverse grooves, between the nostril and the tip, the edges rather blunt, nearly straight until close to the decurved, narrow, obtuse tip. The basal rim is scrobiculate, the rest of the mandible smooth. The nostrils are linear, direct, close to the edge, and near the base. Lower mandible with the angle extremely short and narrow, the dorsal line nearly straight and ascending, the sides slightly concave, without grooves, the ridge narrow but convex, the tip very narrow, obliquely truncate. The gap extends downwards a little beyond the base of the bill, and is furnished with a soft corrugated extensible membrane.

Head large, oblong, anteriorly compressed; eye of moderate size, with the edges of the eyelids bare; neck short and thick; body full and rounded. Feet short, rather stout; tibia bare for a short space above the joint; tarsus very short, anteriorly with a series of small scutella, the rest with small roundish scales. Hind toe wanting; toes of moderate length, rather slender, scutellate above, connected by reticulated entire membranes, the third toe longest, the fourth little shorter, the second considerably shorter, with a narrow marginal web. Claws strong, of moderate length, compressed, arched, that of the inner toe much curved, of the middle toe with a thin inner edge.

Plumage close, blended, soft, very short on the head, where, however, along a line over and behind the eye, there is on each side a tuft of long, very slender, acute incurved feathers, of a shining hair-like texture. Wings rather short, curved, narrow, acute; primary quills narrow, incurved, first longest, second slightly shorter, the rest rapidly graduated; secondaries very short, small and rounded. Tail very short, slightly rounded, of sixteen narrow, rounded, decurved feathers.

Bill light yellowish-red, the basal rim and the ridge towards the end of the upper mandible bright red, as is the edge of the eyelids. Iris light blue. Feet bright red; webs of a deeper tint; claws black. Sides of the head white; upper part brownish-black; the elongated feathers behind the eye pale yellow. The general colour of the upper parts is brownish-black, glossed with blue, of the lower deep purplish-brown.

Length to end of tail 15 inches, to end of wings 14, to end of claws 14; extent of wings $22\frac{1}{2}$; wing from flexure $8\frac{4}{12}$; tail $2\frac{1}{4}$; bill along the ridge $2\frac{3}{4}$, along the edge of lower mandible $1\frac{1}{2}$; tarsus $1\frac{5}{12}$; middle toe $1\frac{10}{12}$, its claw $\frac{7}{12}$.

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

Laysan Albatross
1. White & Reddish

1841. Printed & Sold by W. D. Brown, Philad^a

Audubon, John James. 1844. "The Tuffed Puffin, *Mormon cirrhatus*, Lath. [Pl. 462]." *The birds of America : from drawings made in the United States and their territories* 7, 234–235. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.319579>.

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