PODICEPS GULARIS, Gould.

Fig. 1.

Pod. summo capite, et nuchæ, intensè nigrescenti-brunneis, olivaceo lavatis; gutture genisque nigris; strigi castanei pone oculos oriente et per latera collì excurrente; corpore supra nigrescenti-brunneo; tectricibus ala secundariis albo marginatis, hoc colore vitram transversam faciente; collo ino, pectore et corpore subtus argenteo-griseis, hoc colore in brunneum ad latera transente; rostri et pedibus nigris.

Long. tot. 10 unc.; rostri, 1 ½; alae, 4 ½; tarsi, 1 ⅔.

Crown of the head and nape of the neck deep blackish brown tinged with olive; throat and sides of the face black; a mark of deep chestnut rises behind each eye and runs down the side of the neck; upper surface deep blackish brown; secondary wing-covers tipped with white, forming a bar across the wing; lower part of the neck, chest, and under surface silvery grey merging into deep brown on the flanks; bill and feet black.


Remark. The above description answers to the spring or nuptial dress, which is common to both sexes; at other seasons the rich markings of the head give place to a uniform tint of greyish brown, and the general coloring is also much lighter.

Habitat. Australia: locality, New South Wales.

PODICEPS NESTOR, Gould.

Fig. 2.

Pod. capite plumis elongatis sericeis albis induto; gutture et occipite nigris; corpore supra intense brunneo, subtus argenteo-griseo, ad latera brunneo lavato; rostro nigro ad apicem pallidiore; tarsis olivaceo-nigris.

Long. tot. 9 unc.; rostri, 1; alae, 4 ½; tarsi, 1 ⅔.

Head covered with long fine hair-like white feathers; throat and occiput, upper surface dark brown, under surface silvery grey, tinged with brown on the flanks; bill black with a light tip; tarsi blackish olive.


Remark. The above is the plumage of the breeding-season; at other periods the head is plain brown, and destitute of the elongated hair-like feathers.

The Podiceps poliocephalus of Messrs. Jardine and Selby’s Illustrations of Ornithology (vol. i. pl. 13.) may possibly be identical with the present bird in one of its changes; at the same time this point is not so clear that we could feel satisfied in figuring it under their name.

Habitat. Australia: localities, Van Diemen’s Land and New South Wales.
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