12. *Dendroeca decora.* (Tab. X. fig. 1.)


Supra cinerea, pilei antici plumis in medio nigris; alis et cauda fusco-nigris cinereo limbatis, illis vix pallide cinereo bifasciatis, hujus restrictibus tribus utrinque externis plaga alba gradatim latius notatis; superciliis a naribus, ellis ipsis, macula suboculari et gutture tota lata flavis; corpore reliquo laticentis albo, hypochondriis cinerascentibus vix nigro striatis; rostro nigricante, pedibus corylinis. Long. tota 4, ale 2-2, caude 1-8, rostri a rictu 0-55, tarsi 0-6. (Deser. exempl. ex Guatemala. Mus. Acad. Cantabr.)

*Hab.* Mexico, near Zapotitlan (Sumichrast); British Honduras, Belize (C. Wood), Guatemala (Constancia, Mus. Soc. Econ.)

*Dendroeca decora* is a near ally of *D. gracile,* a species of New Mexico and Arizona discovered some years ago by Dr. Coues. The differences observable between the two birds are slight, and have been treated by American ornithologists as indicating that their possessors are varieties only one of another and not distinct species. This may prove to be the case; but at present no intermediate links have been discovered blending the two races, nor do we think it very probable that such now exist; and for this reason we prefer to treat *D. decora* as distinct.

Though *D. gracile* has been fully described by the eloquent pen of Dr. Coues, nothing is known of its relative beyond the bare record of the capture of specimens. Its presence in Central America was first noticed by Mr. Ridgway, who described Belize specimens obtained by Mr. C. Wood. About the same time we discovered a stuffed specimen in the Museum of the Sociedad Economica de Guatemala. But long before (in 1848) these notes were published, the late Señor J. Constancia had sent to Strickland a specimen from Guatemala, which is still in his collection at Cambridge, and is the bird from which our figure has been drawn.

c. Gula nigra aut nigro mixta.


*Sylviola nigrescens,* Bp. Conspl. i. p. 305; Dugès, La Nat. i. p. 141.


Supra cinerea, interscapuli et uropygii plumis in medio nigris, capite cum gula nigris; loris flavis, supercilii posticis, stria utrinque gulae et abdomine medio albis, hypochondriis nigro striatis; alis et cauda nigricantibus cinereo limbatis, illis albo bifasciatis, hujus restrictibus utrinque tribus externis parte apicali