



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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Northern Andean or Grey-throated Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus albivitta* or *griseigularis*)

Stock#: 60717
Map Maker: Hart / Gould
Date: 1870 circa
Place: London
Color: (See Description)
Condition: VG
Size: 14.5 x 22 inches
Price: \$15,000.00



Description:

A superb original watercolor of a toucan for an unpublished work by John Gould.

A wonderful finished watercolor by William Hart, prepared for John Gould, depicting two Grey-throated Toucanets, one bird perched and the other hanging from the same leafing branch, together clasp one another's beaks, while another toucanet dives through the sky in the background.

This is a finished preparatory watercolor for an unpublished lithograph; it was based on [a pencil sketch possibly by John Gould](#), which is now in the Sauer Collection at the University of Kansas (Gould 2039).

We know from Gould's article in *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (volume 14, page 183) that in



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1874 he had a strong interest in new toucan species. This makes sense as an approximate date for the drawings, too. The article and drawings suggest that around this time Gould may have been reassessing his second *Monograph of the Rhamphastidae*, wishing to update the work yet again. We are aware of at least six finished but unpublished toucan drawings done for Gould around this time (and possibly a seventh described in H. P. Kraus, *The Ninetieth Catalogue*). Six unpublished toucan drawings are mentioned in Henry Sotheran's Piccadilly Notes, Number 9, and we have been able to trace six extant drawings. We purchased four of them, another is with the London drawings trade, and the other is at the [University of Kansas in the Sauer Collection \(Gould 1053\)](#). All of this makes for a rather exciting discovery: the final remnants of Gould's unpublished third *Monograph of the Rhamphastidae*.

Provenance

John Gould's estate;

Henry Sotheran's Ltd.;

Item 1872, *Piccadilly Notes, Number 9*, London, 1933. "Six magnificent original water-colour drawings of toucans, unpublished. £5.5s each.";

By repute, Mallett Antiques;

Private English collection;

Private sale, Dreweatts 1759 (2014)

Detailed Condition:

Watercolor and graphite on cream wove paper.