## ÆLURŒDUS STONII, Sharpe.

Stone's Cat-bird.

Ælurædus stonii, Sharpe, Nature, xiv. 1876, p. 339.—Salvad. Ann. Mus. Gen. ix. p. 193 (1876).—Sharpe, Journ. Linn. Soc. xiii. p. 495 (1877).—Ramsay, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. iii. p. 268 (1879); iv. p. 97.—Salvad. Orn. della Papuasia, ii. p. 678 (1881).—Gould, B. New Guinea, i. pl. 37 (1881).—Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. vol. vi. p. 387 (1881).—Id. Journ. Linn. Soc. xvi. p. 445 (1883).—Finsch u. Meyer, Zeitschr. ges. Orn. ii. p. 391 (1885).—Iid. Ibis, 1886, p. 258.—D'Hamonv. Bull. Soc. Zool. France, xi. p. 511 (1886).—Salvad. Agg. Orn. Papuasia, ii. p. 167 (1890).—De Vis, Rep. Brit. New Guinea, 1890, p. 116.

Ailurædus stonii, Ramsay, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. iii. p. 268 (1879).—Id. op. cit. iv. p. 97 (1880).

Ptilonorhynchus stonii, Van Musschenbr. Dagboek, pp. 212, 241 (1883).—Rosenb. Mitth. orn. Ver. Wien, 1885,

The present species is one of the smallest of the Cat-birds, and seems to be entirely confined to the southeastern portion of New Guinea, where it replaces Ælurædus buccoides of North-western New Guinea. It is a smaller bird than the latter, and further differs in having the crown of the head blackish brown instead of olive-brown, and in having the spots on the throat and under surface of the body very much smaller.

It was first met with in South-eastern New Guinea by Mr. Octavius Stone, who found it on the Laloki River, and its home, so far as is known at present, appears to be the interior of the Port Moresby district. Mr. Goldie found the species about fifteen miles inland, inhabiting the dense scrub and feeding on fruits and berries. He afterwards procured it in the Sogeri district, where it was called by the natives "Yaritagga." Mr. Forbes likewise met with it in Sogeri. The late Karl Hunstein procured the species on the Horseshoe Range, and Sir William Macgregor also obtained specimens on Mount Belford, in the Astrolabe Range,

Mr. Goldie forwarded two eggs supposed to be those of Ælurædus stonii from Sogeri, but as they were white, and entirely different from those of the ordinary Cat-birds, it is reasonable to suppose that the

The following is the description of the type specimen given by me in the 'Catalogue of Birds':-Adult. General colour above bright green, some of the feathers tinged with blue; wings green like the back, the inner webs dusky brown, the primaries externally washed with yellow, the secondaries tipped with the latter colour; tail green, blackish on the inner webs of the outermost rectrices, which are tipped with white; head dark brown, slightly washed with olive; hind neck yellowish buff, mottled with black centres to the feathers, those adjoining the mantle spotted with green; sides of face and throat pure white, with a few tiny spots of black on the ear-coverts, and with larger spots on the sides of the neck; rest of under surface of body ochraceous buff, the fore neck and chest minutely spotted with green, the flanks also with a few tiny spots of the latter colour; under wing-coverts yellowish buff, the edge of the wing washed with green. Total length 9.3 inches, culmen 1.15, wing 5.05, tail 3.5, tarsus 1.55. The Plate represents an adult bird of the natural size.