ÆLURŒDUS JOBIENSIS, *Rothsch.*

Jobi-Island Cat-bird.

Ælurœdus jobiensis, Rothschild, Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, iv. p. xxvi (1895).

This species has been described by the Hon. Walter Rothschild from a specimen collected in the Island of Jobi by the late Mr. Bruijn's hunters. I have examined the type-specimen in Mr. Rothschild's museum, and at first sight it looks very distinct from *Æ. arfakianus*, and has the hinder neck much mottled with buff, with the blackish shade overspreading the throat; but there are other specimens in the Rothschild museum which appear to me to be intermediate.

The following is Mr. Rothschild's description:—"This species is nearest to *Æ. melanocephalus* of Ramsay, from British New Guinea, but shows sufficient differences to justify its separation. The head is black, uniformly spotted with buffish yellow, and does not show the black band on the sides of the occiput so conspicuous in *Æ. melanocephalus*. Upper neck and back brownish buff, with black margins. Ear-coverts consisting of the large patch of bristly feathers found in its three nearest allies; but this patch passes straight into the black of the throat, without any marked area of pale feathers surrounding it, as in *Æ. melanotis*, *Æ. melanocephalus*, and *Æ. arfakianus*. The pale spots on the tips of the wing-coverts not very distinct and of a dusky buff colour. Throat, breast, and uppermost part of abdomen black, with a small central buff spot in each feather, while in *Æ. melanotis* (from the Aru Islands) and *Æ. melanocephalus* these feathers are buff or whitish, with narrow black borders. The breast is much greener in *Æ. arfakianus* from Mt. Arfak. Lower abdomen and under tail-coverts buff with dusky margins, shaded here and there with green. In all other respects most similar to *Æ. melanocephalus*, but the feathers on the sides of the neck just behind the ear-coverts are almost uniform buff, having nearly lost their dark margins. Culmen 1·5 inch, wing 6·5, tail 5·4, tarsus 1·65."

I have not considered it necessary to give a figure of this species.