LORIA MARIÆ (*De Vis*).

Lady Macgregor's Bower-bird.

Cnemophilus mariæ, De Vis, Annual Report British New Guinea, 1893–94, p. 104 (1894).—Sharpe, Bull. B. O. Club, iv. p. xiv (1894).
Loria mariæ, Sclater, Ibis, 1895, p. 343, pl. viii.—Rothschild, Nov. Zool. iii. p. 14 (1896).
Loria loriæ, Rothschild, Nov. Zool. iii. p. 252 (1896).

This interesting species was discovered on Mount Maneao, in South-eastern New Guinea, during Sir William Macgregor's exploration of this mountain in 1894, by Captain Armit and Mr. Guise, who accompanied the expedition. The species was named after Lady Macgregor by Mr. C. W. De Vis, and he afterwards very kindly sent the type specimens over to England to Dr. Sclater, who figured them in the 'Ibis' for 1895. These specimens have also formed the subject of my Plate in the present work, but I have endeavoured to give a more satisfactory rendering of the colours of this species, as the plate in the 'Ibis' is, I regret to say, not correct.

In May 1894, Count Salvadori described as a new genus and species of the *Paradiseidæ* a bird from the Moroka district in the Owen Stanley range. Only a female was sent by Dr. Loria; but Count Salvadori recognized that it represented a new form, and he named it after its discoverer, *Loria loriæ*. When Mr. De Vis sent over the types of his *Cnemophilus mariæ* to Dr. Sclater for examination, Count Salvadori was so good as to allow the type of his *Loria loriæ* to be sent for comparison, and I had the pleasure of comparing these two species together. I fully agreed with Dr. Sclater that *C. mariæ* was a *Loria*, and, like him, I could not advise that the two species *L. loriæ* and *L. mariæ* were identical, because neither of the females sent by Mr. De Vis showed the naked line of yellow skin from the gape to below the ear-coverts which the type of *Loria loriæ* so strongly exhibited, and on which character Count Salvadori laid emphasis in describing the genus. I have therefore kept the name of *Loria mariæ* for the Mount Maneao bird.

More recently, however, the Hon. Walter Rothschild has obtained four specimens of the genus *Loria*. A female was obtained by his collector in the Eafa district of the Owen Stanley range, between Mounts Alexander and Bellamy. Mr. Rothschild also has a beautiful male specimen from the Sakeytanumu range in the Kaiari district, between Mounts Alexander and Nisbet, as well as a young male from Mount Victoria. Although the female bird does not show the bare oral streak as in the type of *L. loriæ*, I perceive indications of it in Mr. Rothschild's specimen, and I expect that his later conclusions will prove to be correct, that *L. mariæ* is identical with *L. loriæ*, and that Count Salvadori's name will have to stand for the species. Mr. Rothschild has also a trade-skin, said to have come from the Arfak district of North-western New Guinea, which is certainly identical with the Owen Stanley specimens.

Adult male. General colour above velvety black with a purplish gloss; wing-coverts also velvety black, the quills likewise velvety in texture, but, when held away from the light, the inner secondaries appear of a beautiful metallic steel-blue, glossed with purple; tail-feathers velvety black, with a metallic purple shade under certain lights; head exactly like the back, but the nasal plumes, lores, and a patch of feathers extending above the fore part of the eye metallic, changing under the light to greenish grey, emerald-green, or steel-green, sometimes showing a slight purplish tinge; sides of face and under surface of body velvety black, with a purplish gloss like the upper surface: bill black; feet dark green; iris brown, eyeball blue. Total length 8·5 inches, culmen 0·9, wing 4, tail 2·85, tarsus 1·5.

Adult female. Different from the male. General colour above olive-greenish, the wing-coverts like the back, but the greater series with a slight tinge of orange-brown; quills dusky brown, with a strong tinge of orange-brown externally, more bronzy on the secondaries; tail-feathers dusky brown, externally bronzy brown and margined with olive-greenish like the back; head like the back, slightly brighter and clearer olive on the lores and above the eye; sides of face and throat and chest olive-greenish, like the sides of the body; the breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts lighter and more olive-yellow; under wing-coverts light tawny; quills ashy below, with the inner webs light tawny: bill black; feet green; iris greyish black. Total length 8·2 inches, culmen 0·9, wing 3·8, tail 2 65, tarsus 1·4.