

## SCHLEGELIA RESPUBLICA (Bp.).

### Bare-headed Bird of Paradise.

- Lophorina respublica*, Bp. Compt. Rend. xxx. p. 291 (February 1850, note).—Id. Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1850, p. 124, note.—Slater, Ibis, 1877, p. 493.
- Diphylloides respublica*, Bp. Compt. Rend. xxx. p. 291 (1850, note).—Id. Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1850, p. 242.—Id. Consp. Av. i. p. 413 (1850).—Id. Compt. Rend. xxxviii. p. 262 (1854).—Rosenb. Nat. Tijdschr. Ned. Ind. xxv. p. 247 (1863).—Id. J. f. O. 1864, p. 130.—Elliot, Mon. Parad. Introd. p. xxvii, pl. xiv. (1873).—Meyer, Mitth. zool. Mus. Dresd. i. pp. 5-7 (1875).—Gould, B. New Guin. i. pl. 20 (1876).—Cory, Beautiful & Curious B. pt. iii. (1881).
- Paradisaea wilsoni*, Cass. Proc. Acad. Philad. 1850, p. 57 (August).—Id. Journ. Acad. Philad. 1852, p. 133, pl. 15.—Gray, P. Z. S. 1858, p. 194.—Id. Cat. B. New Guin. pp. 36, 59 (1859).—Id. P. Z. S. 1861, p. 436.—Scl. P. Z. S. 1865, p. 465.—Schl. Nederl. Tijdschr. Dierk. iii. p. 249 (1866).—Id. Mus. Pays-Bas, Coraces, p. 87 (1867).—Finsch, J. f. O. 1866, p. 136.—Gray, Hand-l. B. ii. p. 16, no. 6250 (1870).—Wagler, Zool. Gart. 1873, p. 11, map 7.—Rosenb. Malay. Arch. p. 395 (1879).—Musschenbr. Dagboek, pp. 189, 221 (1883).
- Diphylloides wilsonii*, Slater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1857, p. 6.—Id. Proc. Linn. Soc. ii. p. 163 (1858).—Wallace, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1862, p. 160.—Newton, Ibis, 1865, p. 343.—Wall. Malay Arch. ii. pp. 405, 419 (1869).—Beccari, Ann. Mus. Genov. vii. p. 713 (1875).—Slater, Ibis, 1876, p. 251.—Nehrk. J. f. O. 1885, p. 34.—Guillem. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1885, p. 654.—D'Hamonv. Bull. Soc. Zool. France, xi. p. 510 (1886).
- Paradisaea respublica*, Finsch, Neu-Guinea, p. 173 (1865).
- Schlegelia calva*, Bernst. Nat. Tijdschr. Nederl. Ind. xxvii. p. 79 (1864).—Id. Nat. Tijdschr. Dierk. ii. p. 1 (1864).—Id. J. f. O. 1864, p. 401.—Id. Nederl. Tijdschr. Dierk. ii. p. 320 (1865), iii. p. 4, pl. 7 (1866).
- Paradisaea calva*, Schl. Nederl. Tijdschr. Dierk. ii. p. 1 (1864).—Finsch, Neu-Guinea, p. 173 (1865).—Rosenb. MT. orn. Ver. Wien, 1885, p. 31.
- Schlegelia wilsoni*, Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iii. p. 175 (1877).—Eudes-Deslongch. Ann. Mus. Caen, i. p. 34 (1880).—Witmer Stone, Proc. Philad. Acad. 1891, p. 448.
- Schlegelia respublica*, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. ix. p. 192 (1876).—Id. Orn. Papuasias, etc. ii. p. 642 (1881).—Id. Agg. Orn. Papuasias, etc. ii. p. 162 (1890).

THIS wonderful Bird of Paradise was described in August, 1850, by the late Mr. John Cassin from a specimen in imperfect condition which had been acquired in Paris by Dr. Wilson and presented by him to the Museum of the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences. It was named *Paradisaea wilsoni* by Cassin, in honour of the donor, to whose liberality the Philadelphia Museum owed so much. In February of the same year, however, Bonaparte had published a short diagnosis of a new Bird of Paradise, which he called *Lophorina respublica*; and in 1877, when I was describing the family in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' I pointed out that the only species which answered to Bonaparte's diagnosis, "fasciculo e plumis elongatis nuchæ rubris," was *Rhipidornis gulielmi-tertii* of Meyer, and I therefore restored the name of *wilsoni* to the present species. In commenting upon my conclusions Dr. Slater has given us the whole history of the transaction, and it seems that the specimen described by Cassin in Philadelphia was actually the same as the one seen by Bonaparte in Europe. The following are Dr. Slater's notes on the subject:—"The late Prince Bonaparte, having been allowed to examine the (then unique) type specimen in question, before its transmission to Philadelphia, thought the opportunity of describing a new Paradise-bird, and at the same time of promulgating his republican sympathies, too good to be lost, and in spite of the injunctions of the owner of the specimen, inserted the name '*respublica*,' with a short diagnosis (certainly erroneous, and probably drawn up from recollection), in a footnote to a paper which he was at the time engaged upon for the 'Comptes Rendus.'" Under the circumstances thus detailed by Dr. Slater there is no choice left but to adopt the name of *respublica* for the species, as has been done by Count Salvadori; but I am inclined to agree with Mr. Witmer Stone that "anyone would be justified in passing over such a description as Bonaparte's and adopting the first clear diagnosis, which, in the case of the present bird, is that of Cassin."

Bernstein was the first naturalist to discover the true habitat of the present species, which he met with both in Waigiou and Batanta. He described it as a new genus and species of Bird of Paradise, and the name of *Schlegelia* happily remains to remind us of Bernstein's prowess as a traveller and a naturalist, and at the same time of the great Director of the Leiden Museum, to whom science is so deeply