

69.

TRICHOPARADISEA GULIELMI (*Cab.*).

Emperor of Germany's Bird of Paradise.

Paradisea gulielmi, Cabanis, J. f. O. 1888, p. 119.

Paradisea gulielmi tertii, Cabanis, J. f. O. 1889, tab. i.—Salvad. Agg. Orn. Papuasie e delle Molucche, p. 158 (1890).—Madarász, Aquila, i. p. 90 (1894).

Trichoparadisea gulielmi, Meyer, Abhandl. k. zool. Mus. Dresden, 1892-93, p. 20 (1893).—Sharpe, Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, iv. p. xiii (1894).

THIS fine species of Bird of Paradise, for which Dr. Meyer has rightly instituted a new generic name, was discovered in German New Guinea, and named after the Emperor of Germany by Professor Cabanis.

The exact locality of the species was not known till Mr. Geisler procured the species in the mountains to the north of Huon Gulf, where it was found not lower than 800 feet. It has also been found by the late Mr. Fenichel in the Finisterre Mountains at a height of about 1600 feet, where it is called by the natives 'Chanbi.' Captain Cotton and Captain Webster procured a series of specimens on the Sattelberg Mountain in the Finisterre range, on their recent expedition, for the Hon. Walter Rothschild, who has presented a fine pair of birds to the British Museum, from which the following descriptions are taken:—

Adult male. General colour above maroon-brown, washed on the lower back with straw-yellow; the whole of the hinder neck, mantle, and upper back, as well as the lesser wing-coverts, bright straw-yellow; remainder of the wing-coverts, quills, upper tail-coverts, and tail-feathers maroon-brown, the two centre tail-feathers represented by long brown shafts, devoid of webs; crown of head metallic grass-green, as well as the sides of the face and entire throat and chest; the green cap approaching a point on the nape, which is deeper straw-colour, extending down the sides of the neck in a sharply defined line from the green throat-shield; remainder of under surface of body deep maroon, velvety on the breast, the abdomen rather more blackish, with a pale yellowish-white patch on each side; long flank-plumes white, the feathers with hair-like and dissociated webs, some of the upper long flank-plumes being dark maroon-brown like the breast, the inner long plumes being golden yellow; under wing-coverts and quill-lining dark maroon-brown; "bill and feet reddish brown; iris reddish brown" (*Fenichel*). Total length 13 inches, culmen 1.15, wing 6.7, tail 4.4, centre tail-feathers 18.5, tarsus 1.8.

Adult female. Similar to the male, but much duller in colour and wanting the ornamental flank-plumes, the crown and throat being blackish chocolate of a velvety character, the shape of the yellow on the hinder crown being the same as in the male, but the yellow much duller in colour, as well as the straw-yellow on the breast, this colour being washed with greenish grey; the lesser wing-coverts entirely of a greenish-grey colour; the same crossing the fore-neck in an indistinct band; remainder of the under surface from the chest downwards dark maroon-brown; the flank-plumes a little longer, but of the same colour as the breast. Total length 13.3 inches, culmen 1.5, wing 6.6, tail 4.5, tarsus 1.75.

A younger female, from the Sattelberg Mountain, lent me by Mr. Rothschild, is paler than the female bird described, especially on the under surface of the body, which is pale maroon or dull vinous, with indistinct mottlings of dusky cross-bars, nearly obsolete and scarcely distinguishable, the pale straw-colour of the sides of the neck extending across the fore-neck below the blackish throat.

The three specimens from the Rothschild Museum described above are figured in the Plate. The adult male and female have been presented by him to the British Museum.