

DREPANORNIS ALBERTISI, *Sclater*.

D'Albertis' Bird of Paradise.

Drepanophorus albertisii, Sclater, Nature, viii. pp. 151, 195 (1873).

Drepanornis albertisii, Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1873, pp. 557, 560, pl. xlvii.—Id. Nature, viii. p. 305, cum fig. (1873).—Elliot, Monogr. Parad. pl. 21 (1873).—Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1873, p. 697.—Id. Ibis, 1874, pp. 177, 187.—Finsch, J. f. O. 1874, p. 54.—Meyer, t. c. p. 55.—Id. Zool. Gart. 1874, p. 116.—Schl. in Rosenb. Reist. naar Geelvinkb. p. 117, note (1875).—Beccari, Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. vii. p. 711 (1875).—Gould, B. New Guinea, i. pl. xi. (1875).—Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. vii. pp. 785, 899 (1875); viii. p. 403 (1876); ix. p. 190 (1876); x. p. 154 (1877).—Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. iii. p. 160 (1877).—D'Albert. Nuova Guinea, pp. 80, 582, cum tab. (1880).—Salvad. Orn. Papuasie e delle Molucche, ii. p. 549 (1881).—Eudes-Deslongch. Ann. Mus. Hist. Nat. Caen, i. p. 15 (1880).—Cory, Beautiful and Curious Birds, part vi. (1883).—Mussch. Dagboek, pp. 204, 235 (1883).—Guillem. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1885, p. 649.—D'Hamonv. Bull. Soc. Zool. France, 1886, pp. 505, 509.—Salvad. Agg. Orn. Papuasie, ii. p. 155 (1890).—Sharpe, Bull. B. O. Club, iv. p. xii (1894).

Epimachus wilhelminæ, Meyer, Nat. Tijdschr. Nederl. Ind. 1873, p. 415.—Id. J. f. O. 1873, p. 405.—Finsch, J. f. O. 1874, p. 54.—Meyer, t. c. p. 55.—Id. Zool. Gart. 1874, p. 116.—Id. Sitz. k. Akad. Wiss. Wien, lxi. p. 75, note (1874).—Sclater, Ibis, 1874, p. 186.—Meyer, Ibis, 1874, p. 303.

Epimachus vethi, Rosenb. Zool. Gart. 1874, p. 8.—Id. Reist. naar Geelvinkb. p. 116, pl. xviii. (1873).—Id. Malay. Arch. pp. 552, 590 (1878-79).

Epimachus albertisii, Rosenb. Mitth. orn. Ver. Wien, 1885, p. 54.

THIS interesting species of Sickie-billed Bird of Paradise was described in 1873 by Dr. Sclater, from specimens procured in the Arfak Mountains by Signor D'Albertis. He proposed at first the name of *Drepanophorus* for the genus, but this, being found to be preoccupied, was changed into *Drepanornis*. Von Rosenberg had seen a female bird two years previously in the collection of Mr. Renesse van Duivenbode, at Ternate, but the first specimens to be described were those obtained by D'Albertis. A few months afterwards the species was also described by Dr. A. B. Meyer; since that date several specimens have reached Europe, and the bird is to be seen in several public and private museums. The species appears to be entirely confined to the Arfak Mountains in North-western New Guinea, being replaced in South-eastern New Guinea by *D. cervinicauda*. Besides the specimens procured by D'Albertis at Hatam, it has also been obtained at Andai by Dr. Beccari and the hunters employed by the late Mr. Bruijn.

D'Albertis states that the species is very rare near Hatam, and many of the natives did not know it, but others called it 'Quarna.' The food of the species doubtless consists of berries and insects, though the specimens procured by D'Albertis had nothing in their stomachs excepting clean water.

Dr. Beccari writes:—

"*Drepanornis* is well known to the Arfaks under the name of 'Sagroja'; it is not very rare, but difficult to find, because, as the hunters assure me, it has no peculiar cry, so that it is only met with by chance. Its inconspicuous colour makes it difficult to see. It is partial to places near recent clearings from 3000 to 5000 feet, as it has the habit of flying to dead trees and fallen trunks, about which it finds insects which form its food. In the stomachs of the two specimens which I dissected I found only insects of various orders, ants predominating, and the larvæ of a lepidopterous insect."

Adult male. General colour above brown, the rump tawny chestnut, shading into fawn-colour on the upper tail-coverts, the tail being uniform fawn-colour; wing-coverts chestnut-brown, the rest of the wing being paler and more tawny brown, the quills blackish brown on the inner webs, the innermost secondaries pale tawny brown like the back; crown of head rich brown with a purple gloss; sides of head bare, with a line of brown feathers drawn across the ear-coverts; lores and feathers in front of the eye and cheeks velvety brown glossed with purple; throat rich purplish brown; rest of the under surface of body chocolate-brown, with a lilac gloss on the breast and abdomen; across the lower breast a bar of dull green; from the sides of the chest springs a tuft of fine purple feathers, brown at the base and tip; from the sides of the breast another long tuft of plumes, chocolate-brown glossed with lilac, each feather tipped with a bar of amethystine purple; under wing-coverts brown, the innermost of the greater series whitish at the tip; quills