

404. *Euphema Bourkii* Vol. V. Pl. 43.

Captain Sturt found this species in abundance at the Depôt in Central Australia.

GENUS *MELOPSITTACUS*, *Gould*.

Generic characters.

Bill moderate; *culmen* arched; *tomia* descending at the base, then ascending and curving downwards to the tip; *nostrils* basal, lateral, open, and seated in a broad swollen cere; *wings* rather long, pointed, first primary very long, the second the longest; *tail* long and much graduated; *tarsi* moderate and covered with minute scales; *toes* slender, the outer toe much longer than the inner one.

The only known species of this form is strictly gregarious, assembles in vast flocks, and is admirably adapted for plains and downs covered with grasses, upon the seeds of which it entirely subsists.

405. *Melopsittacus undulatus* Vol. V. Pl. 44.

In all probability this bird is universally dispersed over the whole of the interior of Australia, since independently of its previously known range from Swan River on the west to New South Wales on the east, Mr. Gilbert observed it in every part of the country between Moreton Bay and the Gulf of Carpentaria.

GENUS *NYMPHICUS*, *Wagl*.

As of *Melopsittacus*, there is only one species known of this genus. It is strictly Australian, and will doubtless hereafter be found to be universally distributed over that vast country; it is equally adapted for the plains, and the two birds are frequently found associated.

406. *Nymphicus Novæ-Hollandiæ* Vol. V. Pl. 45.

There are two distinct varieties of this species, one having a much darker colouring than the other.

GENUS *PEZOPORUS*, *Ill*.

Of this terrestrial form but one species is known, which is very generally distributed over the temperate portions of Australia, the islands in Bass's Straits and Van Diemen's Land. The eggs are laid on the bare ground.

407. *Pezoporus formosus* Vol. V. Pl. 46.

GENUS *LATHAMUS*, *Less*.

Of this form only a single species is known to exist in Australia, and that species had been assigned to a different genus by almost every recent writer on ornithology, Messrs. Vigors and Horsfield placing it in their genus *Nanodes*, Wagler in his genus *Euphema*, &c.; subsequently M. Lesson made it the type of his genus *Lathamus*, giving it at the same time the specific appellation of *rubrifrons*, which must of course give place to that of *discolor*, long before applied to it by Latham.

Having had ample opportunities of observing this bird in a state of nature, I concur in the propriety of M. Lesson's views in separating it into a distinct genus, at the same time I must remark that in its habits, nidification, food and whole economy, it is most closely allied to the *Trichoglossi* or honey-eating Parrakeets, and in no degree related to the *Euphemæ*.

408. *Lathamus discolor* Vol. V. Pl. 47.