PALUMBUS PULCHRICOLLIS.

Collared Wood Pigeon.

Columba pulchricollis, Hodgs., Blyth, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Beng. vol. xiv. p. 866.—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. iii. App. p. 23, App. to p. 470. vol. ii.—Gray, List of Birds in Coll. of Brit. Mus. part iii. p. 9.

Palumbus pulchricollis, Blyth, Cat. of Birds in Mus. Asiat. Soc. Calcutta, p. 233.

Mr. Hodgson has done quite right in giving a name to this fine species of Wood Pigeon, differing as it does from every other known. It is nearly allied to the *Palumbus Elphinstonei*, but on the most cursory glance at the drawings of the two birds, their differences will be very apparent; the *Palumbus pulchricollis* being the largest, and in every respect a more beautifully marked species; the neck adorned with a large nuchal band of buff-tipped feathers, and the head clothed in grey of the most delicate hue.

The Collared Wood Pigeon appears to be strictly confined to the Eastern Himalayas, Nepaul and Sikim, for it is from those countries only that I have received specimens.

I am indebted to Edward Vernon Harcourt, Esq., not only for skins of this bird, but for many other acts of kindness, particularly in connection with our mutual pursuit, the science of Ornithology.

Head and cheeks very delicate grey, gradually fading into whitish on the front of the throat; on the lower part of the neck a conspicuous collar of feathers, black at the base and largely tipped with glossy buff, fading into cream-white at the extremity; breast, sides and back of the neck brightly glossed with the usual changeable green and reddish purple, the former predominating; upper surface of the body and wing-coverts very dark ashy brown, with the primaries and tail very dark brown; abdomen vinous grey, passing into slate-grey on the flanks; vent and under tail-coverts vinous cream-colour; irides yellow; bill red at the base, yellow at the tip; feet crimson.

The Plate represents the bird of the natural size.