LEPIDOGRAMMUS CUMINGI.

Curled-crested Cuckoo.

Phœnicophaus cumingi, Fraser, P. Z. S. 1839, p. 112.—Id., Zool. Typ. pl. 53 (1841); Blyth, J. A. S. B. 1842, p. 925.

——————— *barotii*, Eydoux & Souleyet, Voy. Bonite, Ois. p. 89, Atlas, pl. 6 (1841).

Dasylophus cumingii, Gray, Gen. B. ii. p. 459 (1845); Bp., Consp. Gen. Av. i. p. 98 (1850); Gray, Handl. B. ii. p. 206 (1870).

Lepidogrammus cumingii, Reichenbach, Syst. Av. Nat. pl. xlvii. fig. 4 (1849); Bp., Consp. Volucr. Zygod. p. 5 (1854); Cab. & Heine, Mus. Hein. Th. iv. p. 70 (1862); Sharpe, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 601, fig. 6 (p. 602); Wald., Trans. Z. S. ix. p. 163 (1875).

Like *Dasylophus superciliosus*, the bird now figured is confined to the Philippine Islands and, so far as we know at present, is an inhabitant of Luzon only. It was originally discovered by the late Mr. Hugh Cuming in the province of Albay, situated in the south-eastern corner of the above-named island; here it is called by the natives '*Ansic En Bicol.*' MM. Eydoux and Souleyet write as follows:—"M. de la Gironnière has kindly given us some information about this remarkable bird. It keeps itself always hidden in the middle of the forests where it lives, and is found throughout the year at Luzon. M. de la Gironnière assures us that it nests in the island, which is proved by his having obtained individuals in their first plumage: the latter do not obtain before their first moult the horn-tipped feathers of the crest and throat; and the general colour of their plumage is a reddish buff."

Like the other Philippine genus (*Dasylophus*), this bird has the nostrils entirely hidden by plumes. But that is the only generic character which they possess in common; for *Lepidogrammus* differs not only from the last-named bird, but from all the other Cuckoos with which we are acquainted, in having all the feathers of the head and throat tipped with a peculiar metallic horny appendage, which renders it easily recognizable at a glance. The only other birds which possess a similar structure of feather are the Curl-crested Toucan of the Amazons, and the Open-bill Stork (*Anastomus lamelligerus*) of Africa.

Adult.—General colour above blackish, with a greenish lustre, rather inclining to purple on the wings; the tail-feathers also slightly glossed with purple and tipped with white; sides of neck and upper part of mantle rich chestnut-rufous; all the feathers in the centre of the head, from the beak to the nape, as well as the gular plumes, ornamented with a metallic tip of steel-black; breast dull chestnut, inclining to orange near the white throat; sides of body, belly, thighs, and under tail-coverts brown, the latter glossed with greenish. Total length 17 inches, culmen 1·6, wing 6·5, tail 9·8, tarsus 1·65.

The description and figure are from a fine Manilla skin in my possession.