

uniformly of a pale yellowish green, with a still lighter-coloured ring round the neck ; and the upper surface of the tail exhibits a little blue. In the second year the head becomes of a fine bluish cast, with a yellow collar round the neck, when it becomes the *P. cyanocephalus* ; and in the third year the head of the male becomes a most beautiful rich peach-blossom, shading off to the black ring into a soft azure blue. In the third year the full plumage of the adult is acquired ; and each subsequent year, for some time, only adds to its richness of colouring."

Dr. Jerdon observes :—" It frequents jungly districts in preference to the more open parts of the country, but occurs in all the more richly wooded cultivated districts ; and it generally visits those parts of the country that are tolerably wooded during the rains. It usually breeds in the jungles ; but I have found its nest in my own garden at Sangor."

" It has similar habits to the others, feeding on fruits and grains, which it picks off the standing corn or, in the stubble-fields, off the ground. It is less noisy, and has a much more pleasant call, than *P. torquatus*. Its flight is very swift, indeed much more so than in the last-named bird and *P. alexandri*. It breeds in holes of trees, from December to March, and has usually four white eggs."

Mr. Holdsworth writes :—" I have only met with this species in the southern parts of Ceylon, where it is very destructive to the grain crops ; but it is also found at times on the lower hills generally. I have seen a flock of fifty of these birds fly down one after another to a field of paddy, and each, biting off an ear of the green corn, return to a neighbouring tree to devour the plunder ; and this has been repeated again and again. The three species of *Palæornis* are constantly caged by the natives ; and few native dwellings are without one or other of these favourite pets." Mr. Vincent Legge, also writing from Ceylon, says :—" *P. rosa* is numerous from the low country up to the highest part of the Marowa-Korle, being found in the greatest numbers in the intermediate hills."

The large figure in the Plate is of the size of life.