

COPSYCHUS SUAVIS, *Sclat.*

Chestnut-bellied Dial Bird.

Copsychus suavis, Sclat. in Proc. of Zool. Soc. 1861, pp. 185, 187.

THE figures on the accompanying Plate represent both sexes of a species of *Copsychus* from Borneo, which Dr. Sclater believes to have been without a scientific appellation until the Meeting of the Zoological Society held in the evening of April the 23rd, 1861, when he assigned to it that of *suavis*, and made the following observations as to its specific value :—

“I have selected two examples of this pretty species of *Copsychus* out of a small collection of bird-skins from Banjermassing in Southern Borneo, now in the hands of Mr. S. Stevens. Its nearest ally is that well-known beautiful songster the *Copsychus macrurus* of India, from which, however, it is readily distinguished by its larger size, shorter tail, and the three lateral rectrices (as well as the outer web of the next pair) being wholly of a pure white. There are, however, blackish edgings at the base of the inner web of the second and third pair in one of the specimens, which I take to be a male. In the other, which is probably the female, these are absent, and the three external pairs of rectrices are wholly white, the belly is paler chestnut, the plumage above more dusky, and the size smaller.” (Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London for the year 1861, p. 185.)

The male has the head, neck, breast, upper part of the back, and wing-coverts deep bluish black ; primaries and secondaries dark olive-brown ; lower part of the back, rump, upper tail-coverts, the three outer tail-feathers, and the external web of the fourth pure white, internal web of the fourth and the remaining tail-feathers deep black ; abdomen, under tail-coverts, and thighs rich chestnut-red ; irides dark brown ; bill black ; legs fleshy red.

The female differs only in being somewhat smaller and paler-coloured than her mate.

The figures are of the natural size.