

CARPOPHAGA RUBRICERA, *Bonap.*

New-Ireland Fruit-Pigeon.

- Columba pinon*, Less. Voy. Coquille, Zool. i. p. 342 (1826, nec Quoy et Gaim.).
- Carpophaga rubricera*, Bp. Consp. ii. p. 31 (1864, ex Gray, MSS.).—Gray, List Columb. in Brit. Mus. p. 18 (1856).—Wallace, Ibis, 1865, p. 383.—Gray, Hand-l. B. ii. p. 229, no. 9177 (1870).—Schl. Mus. Pays-Bas, Columbæ, p. 81 (1873).—Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. ix. p. 200 (1876, pt.).—Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1877, p. 109 (pt.), 1878, pp. 289, 671.—Elliot, op. cit. 1878, p. 549.—Salvad. Monog. *Globicera*, p. 13 (1878).—Finsch, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1879, p. 13.—Salvad. Ibis, 1879, p. 364.—Brown, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1879, p. 451.—Salvad. Orn. Papuasie e delle Molucche, iii. p. 79 (1882).—Finsch, Vög. der Südsee, p. 18 (1884).
- Globicera rubricera*, Bp. Consp. ii. p. 31 (1854).—Id. Compt. Rend. xxxix. p. 1073 (1854), xl. p. 217 (1855), xli. p. 1111 (1855), xliii. p. 835 (1856).—Id. Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1856, p. 403.—Reichenb. Handb. Columb. p. 121.—Bonap. Iconogr. Pigeons, pl. 39 (1857).
- Carpophaga lepida*, Cassin, Journ. Philad. Acad. 1854, p. 330.—Bonap. Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1856, p. 403.—Id. Compt. Rend. xli. p. 1111 (1855), xliii. p. 835 (1856).
- Carpophaga (Globicera) rubricera*, Gray, Cat. Birds Tropical Isl. p. 41 (1859).
- Carpophaga (Zonænas) pinon*, Gray, tom. cit. p. 42 (1859, nec Quoy et Gaim.).
- Muscadivora rubricera*, Schleg. Dierentuin, fig. 1, p. 209.
- Carpophaga (Globicera) rubricera*, Cab. & Reichen. J. f. O. 1876, p. 325.

A succinct history of this species has been given by Count Salvadori in his great work on the birds of New Guinea and the Moluccas, from which we have taken the major part of the above synonymy. It appears to be entirely confined to New Ireland, New Hanover, and New Britain, having been found in the two first-mentioned islands by Dr. Huesker during the German Transit-of-Venus Expedition, while Dr. Finsch states that it was the commonest of the large Pigeons in New Britain. All the references to the occurrence of this bird in the Solomon group are probably erroneous, as it is represented in the latter locality by *Carpophaga rufigula* of Salvadori, which has the head and neck ashy, with the cheeks and throat vinaceous. In *C. rubricera* the head and neck are vinaceous, the lower part of the hind neck being ashy.

The following is a translation of Count Salvadori's description, taken from the type in the British Museum :—

“Head, neck, and breast vinaceous ; a ring round the eye and the margin of the forehead whitish ; lower part of the hind neck and upper part of the back pale ashy grey ; remainder of the back and wings shining coppery green ; abdomen, anal region, and thighs rusty ; under tail-coverts chestnut ; primaries and tail-feathers blue-black with a green reflection ; the cere, which is swollen, and the feet red.”

The figure in the Plate is drawn from an adult specimen collected by Mr. Cockerell in New Ireland, and now in the British Museum. It is of the size of life.

[R. B. S.]