

## GYMNOPHAPS PÆCILORRHOA.

### Rusty-banded Fruit-Pigeon.

*Carpophaga pæcilorrhoea*, Brüggem. Abhandl. nat. Vereine zu Bremen, v. p. 84.

THE genus *Gymnophaps* was instituted in 1874 by Count Salvadori; and the type is *Gymnophaps albertisi*, a fine Fruit-Pigeon discovered at Andei in North-western New Guinea by Signor D'Albertis. Up to the time of writing I have not seen that species; and I am unable to say whether the bird which I figure on the accompanying Plate is really congeneric with the Papuan *Gymnophaps*. My friend Dr. Meyer, who lends me the specimen which I figure, has attached to it the name of *Gymnophaps pæcilorrhoea* (Brüggem.); and on comparing Count Salvadori's description of the genus, which is remarkable for its bare loreal patch extending round the eye, I should say that Dr. Meyer is quite right in placing the species in the genus *Gymnophaps*.

The present bird is remarkable for its very plain coloration, differing in this respect from the majority of the subfamily Carpophaginae, many of which are of beautifully varied plumage. But though *Gymnophaps pæcilorrhoea* is a somewhat dull-coloured bird, the monotony of its plumage is slightly relieved by the bands on the abdomen and the dark-centred under tail-coverts.

Nothing has yet been recorded of the habits or economy of this strange Pigeon; nor do we know the exact part of the island of Celebes from which it comes. It is probably from the south-eastern portion of the island, where Dr. Fischer collected, as neither Mr. Wallace nor Dr. Meyer nor any of the old Dutch travellers appear to have come across the species in any of the places visited by them.

I append a full description of the species:—

General colour above dusky brown shot with olive-green; quills brown, with narrow reddish margins to the outer web, as well as the greater wing-coverts; tail blackish, tipped with a narrow band of buffy white; head dusky grey, somewhat more vinous on the hind neck, the forehead lighter grey; cheeks, ear-coverts, and throat dull vinous; lower throat darker ashy, as also the adjacent sides of the neck; the chest light ashy, extending onto the sides of the neck, and forming a conspicuous patch on the sides of the mantle; remainder of under surface brown, mottled with reddish-ochre margins to the feathers; under tail-coverts dark brown, with broad edgings of reddish ochre; under wing-coverts dusky brown, the axillaries rufous brown; undersurface of quills dark ashy brown.

The specimen figured in the accompanying Plate is in the Dresden Museum, and was lent to me by Dr. Meyer for the purposes of the present work. The species is represented about the size of life.