

PTILONOPUS NANUS.

Tiny Fruit-Pigeon.

Columba nana, Temm. Pl. Col. iv. pl. 252.—Knip and Temm. Iconogr. Pigeons, pl. 59.

Ptilonopus nana, Gray, Gen. B. ii. p. 467.

Ionotreron nana, Reich. Handb. Columbæ, p. 100, taf. cccxxxix. fig. 1330.

Iotreron nana, Bp. Consp. Gen. Av. ii. p. 25.

Ptilonopus nanus, Wall. Ibis, 1865, p. 381.—Gray, Hand-l. B. ii. p. 226.

Ptilopus nanus, Schl. Mus. P.-B. Columbæ, p. 21.

THIS is one of the rarest, as it is one of the most recognizable, of the small *Ptilonopi* or Many-coloured Fruit-Pigeons, a group of birds which finds its greatest development in the Malay archipelago and Oceania. The small size and peculiar coloration readily distinguish this species from all the other members of the genus *Ptilonopus*.

Nothing has been recorded respecting the habits of this elegant little Pigeon. It was first discovered by Salomon Müller in Triton Bay, or Lobo, in New Guinea; and for many years his specimen remained unique. More recently, however, the Dutch traveller M. Hoedt has discovered it in Mysol; and as one or two of his specimens reached England, I have been enabled to figure it in the present work. The Leiden Museum also possesses two examples of M. Hoedt's collecting, the localities being Kasim and Waigaama, both in the island of Mysol. They were obtained in the months of June and July respectively.

Adult male.—Bright grass-green above and below, all the greater wing-coverts and inner secondaries plainly edged with bright lemon-yellow, before which is a broad subterminal band of bright, rather metallic, bluish green; primaries greyish black on their inner web, dark green on the outer, with a narrow edging of yellow to the secondaries; tail deep green; on each side of the neck a broad crescentic mark of pale grey; across the top of the abdomen a broad band of purple feathers, with some metallic bluish-green subterminal bars to most of them, the abdominal plumes tipped with yellow; under tail-coverts bright yellow; thighs whitish; under wing-coverts dark grey like the inner lining of the wing, the outermost of the coverts greenish with a narrow yellow edging.

The female has no abdominal spot.

As above stated, the Plate has been drawn from examples in my own cabinet, the figures representing both sexes of the natural size.