

PHLOGŒNAS JOHANNÆ, *Sclater*.

Mrs. Sclater's Ground-Dove.

Phlogœnas johannæ, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1877, p. 112, pl. 16.

Dr. Sclater, in describing the present bird (named in compliment to his wife), remarks :—"The nearest species known seem to be *P. stairi*, of the Samoans, from which, however, *P. johannæ* may be known by its lovely pure white breast, and *P. canifrons*, Hartl. & Finsch, of the Pelew group (Journ. Mus. Godeffr. viii. p. 27, pl. v. fig. 1), in which the hind part of the neck is rusty red."

Unfortunately we do not know the exact habitat of this pretty Ground-Dove. It was sent by Mr. George Brown, in a collection of birds from the Duke-of-York Island, New Britain, and New Ireland; but from which of these three localities *P. johannæ* was procured was not indicated when the specimens were sent home.

The following is a translation of Dr. Sclater's description of the species :—

Adult. Dusky chestnut, washed on the back with bronze; lesser wing-coverts externally shining purple; head and neck all round, as well as the breast, pale grey, this colour darker on the crown, clearer on the breast, and passing off into pure white; occiput, like the back, washed with bronze; the white colour of the breast arranged in a semicircle, and girt by a purple margin, as on the wing-coverts; primaries uniform dusky black, the secondaries and the scapulars externally uniform with the back; tail above uniform with the back, underneath blackish; round the eye a bare space; feet red. Total length 7·8 inches, wing 4·4, tail 2·7, tarsus 1·1.

The figures in the Plate are drawn from the typical birds, kindly lent me by Dr. Sclater; they are now in the collection of the Marquis of Tweeddale.