

TRICHOGLOSSUS MUSSCHENBROEKII.

Van Musschenbroek's Lorikeet.

- Nanodes musschenbroekii*, Schlegel, Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor de Dierkunde, iv. p. 34 (1873).—Id. Mus. d. P.-B., Revue Psittaci, p. 52 (1874).
Trichoglossus musschenbroekii, Selater, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 697.—Finsch, in Rowley's Orn. Misc. part v. p. 61, pl. xlv. (1876).
Neopsittacus musschenbroekii, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. vii. p. 761 (1875).

PROFESSOR Schlegel describes this species in the following manner:—"M. von Rosenberg has just forwarded us, under the title of *Nanodes musschenbroekii*, three adult individuals of a species of *Nanodes* new to science. These comprise two females and a male, all exactly resembling each other, and collected in April 1870 in the interior of the north-western peninsula of New Guinea. The species is naturally allied to *N. placens* and *N. rubrinotatus*; but it is distinguished at the first glance by its larger size and by the very sensible modifications in the distribution of its colours."

Nothing more was recorded concerning the species until D'Albertis brought back examples from Atam; and since then Count Salvadori has received it from Mount Arfak. In recording the last-named occurrence Count Salvadori makes it the type of a new genus, on account, as he says, of its differently shaped bill, the upper mandible being very much more strongly incurved, and the lower one showing a flat superficies on the gonys, which is very broad. These characters the describer considers sufficient to separate the bird generically from the other members of the Trichoglossinæ.

I have to thank Dr. Meyer for the loan of the fine specimen from which the figures in the Plate have been drawn; and the following is a description of this bird:—

Face green, each feather having a yellow centre; back part of the crown and nape brown, streaked with pale yellow; all the upper surface, including the two centre tail-feathers and flanks, green; chest and centre of the abdomen red; all the primaries and secondaries as seen from above, when the wing is expanded, brilliantly marked with red on the inner webs; the same brilliant red also occurs on the under wing, except the tips of the primaries, which are brownish black; tail cuneate, the four centre feathers nearly uniform green with slightly rosy tips, the external ones green on the outer webs, with brilliant red on the inner webs, the whole broadly tipped with yellowish rose-colour. Total length $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches; wing $4\frac{1}{4}$, tail $3\frac{3}{8}$, tarsus $\frac{5}{8}$.

Professor Schlegel states that the soft parts were found by Von Rosenberg to be as follows—"bill orange-red, iris citron-yellow, feet yellowish flesh-colour."

In concluding this brief memoir of a very interesting bird, I must beg to offer a dissenting voice as to its belonging to the genus *Nanodes* or being allied to *Psittaculoides*; neither can I agree with the learned Count Salvadori in instituting a new genus for its reception. From the first moment I examined the skin kindly forwarded to me by Dr. Meyer I considered it a true *Trichoglossus*—an opinion in which Dr. Selater evidently coincides; see the 'Proceedings' of the Zoological Society, as quoted in the above synonymy. More recently too, Dr. O. Finsch has declared in favour of the bird being a true *Trichoglossus*.

The principal figure in the Plate is of about the size of life.