

LORIUS TIBIALIS, *Sclater*.

Blue-thighed Lory.

Lorius tibialis, Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1871, p. 499, pl. xl.—Garrod, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1872, p. 788.—Giebel, Thes. Orn. ii. p. 503 (1873).—Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genova, x. p. 33 (1877).—W. A. Forbes, Ibis, 1877, p. 278.—Salvad. Orn. della Papuasie e delle Molucche, p. 240 (1880).

THIS is a very distinct species of Lory, and it is very much to be regretted that at present we are entirely ignorant of the country which it inhabits. It is, no doubt, as has been suggested by Dr. Sclater, a denizen of one of the Molucca Islands.

The species was originally described by Dr. Sclater from a specimen which was living at the time in the Zoological Gardens, and of this bird a very good figure was given in the 'Proceedings' of the Society. It belongs to that section of the genus *Lorius* wherein the colour of the head resembles that of the back, instead of being black.

The only other species which shares the character of the crimson head is *Lorius garrulus*; but this is easily distinguished by its yellow under wing-coverts. The original specimen was purchased by Mr. Jamrach in the Calcutta market; it lived for nearly four years in the Zoological Gardens.

The following is a description of the type, which proved, on dissection, to be a female:—

Adult female. General colour above bright crimson, the scapulars like the back; wing-coverts grass-green, the lesser series mixed with crimson and with lilac along the bend of the wing; the inner, greater, and median coverts with a subterminal mark of dark crimson; bastard-wing grass-green, bluish at the end of the feathers, the outer feathers black at the base; primary-coverts grass-green, blackish internally; quills grass-green, the primaries blackish internally, yellow for more than the basal half, the basal part being tinged with red; innermost secondaries marked with dark crimson near the ends like the greater coverts; upper tail-coverts and tail-feathers bright crimson, with a purplish-brown band across the end of the tail; crown of head, sides of face, and entire under surface of body bright crimson, mottled with yellow bases to the feathers on the lower throat and fore neck; thighs lilac-blue; under tail-coverts bright crimson; under wing-coverts and axillaries duller lilac-blue, slightly washed with green and on the edge of the wing with red; quills below black, with a large yellow basal patch; bill bright orange; feet pale flesh-colour, claws bright horn-colour. Total length 11·5 inches, culmen 1·1, wing 6·4, tail 3·7, tarsus 0·7.

The figure in the Plate represents an adult bird of the natural size, and is taken from the specimen described above.

[R. B. S.]