

"*Nasiterna pygmaea* seems to be not a very uncommon bird in the countries it inhabits; but, from its small size and green coloration, it is difficult to discover and to obtain. Beccari says that, if one can discover their bowers, it is not hard to catch them. According to him they have the habit of climbing up the trunks of the trees; he says also that the natives often catch them alive inside the hollow trees, where it seems that they nest. I have heard from D'Albertis that he once obtained from a native a living bird, which after some time succeeded in escaping.

"It was likewise reported to Mr. Wallace by his assistant, Mr. Allen, that this Pygmy Parrot nests in hollow trees, and lays eggs like those of the South-American *Psittaculæ*."

Dr. Meyer has written me a note as follows:—"I got this bird only near the foot of the Arfak Mountains in New Guinea, where, at Andai, I procured specimens in the middle of the day. There this lovely little Parrot was sleeping on the lower branches of the trees, and could be whipped off with a stick. This is also the case with other Parrots which are allied to the *Cacatua* group. I may mention *Cyclopsitta lunulata*, from the Philippine Islands, the individuals of which species sleep in the middle of the hot tropical day in rows, under the shade of the foliage, when one after another can be shot down without the survivors attempting to fly away. It may be imagined how soundly they sleep when the noise of the shot does not disturb them; and it is the same with *Nasiterna*. At other times of the day it is difficult to procure, as it lives in the high trees, where its small size and green plumage form a sufficient protection."

The following description of the species has also been given to me by Count Salvadori:—

"*Adult male*. Green, the underparts lighter; pileum yellowish, faintly tinged with reddish towards the forehead; cheeks brown; middle of the abdomen red; under tail-coverts yellow, the lateral ones tinged with green; two middle tail-feathers blue, the lateral ones black, edged externally with green, the three outer tail-feathers with a yellow spot at the tip of the inner web.

"*Female and young male*. Differs from the adult male in wanting the red colour on the middle of the underparts, which are yellowish green. Total length 3·1 inches, wing 2·3, tail 1·0, culmen 0·4."

The figures are of the size of life.