

CYCLOPSITTA SUAVISSIMA, *Sclater*.

D'Albertis's Perroquet.

Cyclopsitta suavissima, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1876, p. 520. —Sharpe, Journ. Linn. Soc., Zool. xiii. p. 491 (1878).

Cyclopsittacus suavissimus, Salvadori, Annali Mus. Civic. Genov. ix. p. 12 (1876-7). —Id. op. cit. x. p. 28 (1877).

OF the four Papuan species of *Cyclopsitta* two have blue foreheads, and two have the forehead brown; the blue-fronted birds are *C. gulielmi* III. and *C. suavissima*; the brown-fronted ones *C. melanogenys* and *C. fuscifrons*. The present bird was discovered by Signor D'Albertis in the neighbourhood of Naiabui, in South-eastern New Guinea; Mr. Octavius Stone also met with it in the neighbourhood of Port Moresby; and the former naturalist tells us that it feeds on fruits and on seeds. Although closely allied to *C. gulielmi* III., it is, according to Count Salvadori, a much smaller bird, and is distinguished by the less-brilliant orange of the breast, by its white lores, by the black patch on the face much bigger and more constant; and he gives a very full account of the species in his paper on D'Albertis's collection.

I copy from the last-named essay the full diagnosis given by the Count.

Adult male. Green, darker on the upper surface; forehead and a spot behind the eye blue; lores white, the sides of the head and the throat whitish yellow; cheeks broadly black; lower throat and breast orange; abdomen and under tail-coverts pale green, slightly inclining to yellow; quills dusky, the primaries blue on the outer web; secondaries and upper wing-coverts green, uniform with the back; carpal edge of the wing bluish; lesser and median under wing-coverts greenish yellow, the greater ones dusky; quills yellowish towards the base of the inner web; tail green; bill, feet, and iris black.

Female. Similar to the male, but having the cheeks blue, the ear-coverts orange, the breast scarcely orange, but rather greenish yellow, the sides of the breast on each side with a longitudinal yellow mark.

Young male. Similar to the old female, but having the forehead only slightly tinged with blue, the lores whitish yellow, the cheeks greenish, tinged on the upper part with blue, the ear-coverts yellow, the lower throat and upper breast yellowish.

The figures in the Plate represent the typical pair of birds described by Dr. Sclater, and now in Italy. I am indebted to Count Salvadori for permission to figure them here.

Whatever time may bring in regard to the discovery of new Parrots, we can scarcely expect, even in the splendid genus *Cyclopsitta*, a more beautiful bird than the one here figured.