

CYCLOPSITTA DIOPHTHALMA.

Double-eyed Perroquet.

- Psittacula diophthalma*, Hombr. et Jacq. Annales des Sciences Naturelles, 2nd series, xvi. p. 318 (1841).—Gray, Gen. B. ii. p. 423 (1846).—Schlegel, Mus. Pays-Bas, Psittaci, p. 75 (1864).—Id. Nederl. Tijdsch. Dierk. iii. p. 331 (1866, pt.).—Finsch, Die Papageien, ii. p. 628 (1868, pt.).
- Cyclopsitta double œil*, Hombr. et Jacquinet, Voyage Pôle Sud, Atlas, pl. 25 bis, figs. 4, 5 (1842-1853).
- Cyclopsitta diophthalma*, Jacq. et Pucheran, Voy. Pôle Sud, texte, iii. p. 107 (1853).—Bonap. Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1854, p. 154.—Selater, Proc. Linn. Soc. 1858, p. 106.—Wallace, P. Z. S. 1864, p. 284 (pt.).
- Opopsitta diophthalma*, Selater, P. Z. S. 1860, p. 227.—Rosenb. J. f. O. 1864, p. 115.—Selater, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 697.
- Cyclopsittacus diophthalmus*, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. x. p. 28 (1877).—Id. tom. cit. p. 120 (1877).

OUR knowledge of the present beautiful little species is unfortunately very limited ; and at present we are unaware of any thing connected with its habits and economy, although these are doubtless precisely similar to those of the other *Cyclopsittæ*. Its chief habitat appears to be the north-western portion of New Guinea, where it has been collected by Signor D'Albertis and by Dr. Meyer near Andai, and in the Arfak Mountains by Mr. Bruijn and Dr. Beccari, while a good many specimens are contained in the Leiden collection from Kalwal in Salwati, where they were obtained by the late Dr. Bernstein. It appears likewise to be plentiful in the island of Mysol, where Mr. Hoedt obtained a considerable series from the neighbourhood of Kasim and Waaigama. Count Salvadori also mentions its occurrence in the island of Koffias, on the authority of specimens in Count Turati's museum. The original examples, procured by MM. Hombron and Jacquinet, are said to have come from Southern New Guinea.

The following is a description of an adult male bird from Mysol :—

General colour above bright grass-green ; wing-coverts a little darker green than the back, the outermost of the lesser coverts blue, as well as the outer greater coverts, primary-coverts, and primaries, the latter black on the inner webs, the secondaries green, with a bright orange patch on the inner web of the dorsal secondaries ; tail green, forehead and sinciput red, fading into yellow on the hinder crown, lores and sides of face also red, the ear-coverts with a blue streak across the middle, separating the red face from the hinder ear-coverts and sides of neck, which are green ; in front of the eye a spot of cobalt-blue ; under surface of body bright grass-green, lighter on the centre of the body, the flanks with dashes of bright yellow ; under wing-coverts bluish green ; quills blackish below, yellow on the inner webs, as also across the lower greater coverts. Total length 5·8 inches, wing 3·6, tail 2·0.

According to Professor Schlegel, there is no difference in the coloration of the sexes ; but the young birds always have the forehead as far as the top of the head tinged with red, duller than in the adults, while the red colour of the cheeks is replaced by clear yellowish brown, changing to red more quickly in the males than in the females. A young male is also described by Count Salvadori as being similar to the old female, but much smaller, with the red colour on the upper part of the head tinged posteriorly with yellow, while the cheeks are greyish buff margined below and behind with azure blue, and from the forehead a thin red line extends underneath the eyes to the region of the ear-coverts. Signor D'Albertis gives the colour of the eyes as black.

My own specimens of this bird are in very fine condition, having been obtained from Mr. Wallace's expedition ; so that I have been able to institute exact comparisons between the present species and *C. aruensis*, the result being that I am perfectly convinced of the specific distinctness of these two little Perroquets, and have given figures of the two in the present work.

The Plate represents an adult and a young male of the natural size, drawn from skins in my own collection.