

MACRUOPSAR MAGNUS.

Long-tailed Glossy Starling.

- Lamprotornis magnus*, Rosenb. in litt.—Schleg. Ned. Tijdschr. Dierk. iv. p. 18 (1871).—Wald. Trans. Zool. Soc. ix. p. 205 (1873).—Rosenb. Reist. naar Geelvinkb. pp. 37, 47, 140 (1875).—Id. Malay Archip. pp. 558, 591 (1879).
- Aplonis magna*, Gieb. Thes. Orn. ii. p. 428 (1875).
- Lamprotornis major*, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. xii. p. 345 (1878).
- Macruopsar magnus*, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. xii. p. 345 (1878); xvi. p. 195, no. 8 (1880).—Id. Orn. Papuasias, &c. ii. p. 458 (1881).

THIS peculiar Glossy Starling is to all intents and purposes a *Calornis* with an exceptionally long tail. The last-named genus is very strongly represented in the Papuan region; and one species at least, the *Calornis inornata* of Salvadori, lives in the same island as the *Macruopsar*. The latter bird inhabits the islands of Mafoor and Misori, in the Bay of Geelvink, in both of which it was met with by Baron Rosenberg, the original discoverer of the species. Dr. Beccari also obtained it on both islands; but Dr. Meyer appears to have procured it only in Misori.

Count Salvadori states that the examples from Mafoor, collected by Beccari, had the tail shorter than specimens from Misori; and he considers it not improbable that the birds may be found to constitute two races when a larger series of specimens can be compared.

The adult male is described by Count Salvadori as follows:—

“Entirely dull green with a metallic gloss, the head slightly purplish; wings and tail duller; tail very long and graduated, with obscure barrings under certain lights; bill and feet black.”

The female is similar to the male. The young bird is dusky blackish above, white below streaked with black.

The single figure in the Plate represents an adult bird, of about the size of life.

I am indebted to the kindness of Professor Steere, who, on his return journey through London after his travels to the East, lent me the bird from which the life-sized figure in the Plate has been drawn.

[R. B. S.]