

DICÆUM TRISTRAMI, *Sharpe.*

Tristram's Flower-pecker.

Dicæum tristrami, Sharpe, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1883, p. 579.

THIS peculiarly coloured Flower-pecker was lent to us by Canon Tristram, and as we had every reason to believe it to be hitherto undescribed, we attached to it our friend's name in recognition of his many services to ornithology. The species was discovered by Lieut. Richards in Makira Harbour, in San Cristoval, one of the Solomon Islands.

It is not necessary to compare Tristram's Flower-pecker with any other members of the genus *Dicæum*, for its style of colouring is quite unique, and does not ally it with any of the species known up to the present time.

The following is a description of the type specimen, which is in Canon Tristram's collection:—

Adult male. General colour above chocolate-brown, the mantle slightly streaked with a few hoary whitish margins to the feathers; wing-coverts darker chocolate-brown than the back; bastard wing, primary-coverts, and quills blackish brown, the inner secondaries chocolate-brown like the back; upper tail-coverts and tail blackish brown, contrasting sharply with the back; head brown, but mottled with blackish-brown centres to the feathers, the plumes of the forehead and vertex margined with hoary whitish; a line of feathers above the eye and ear-coverts hoary white, the latter slightly mottled, with brown bases; lores, eyelid, fore part of cheeks, and base of chin blackish; hinder cheeks, throat, and fore neck hoary white, with brown bases to the feathers; sides of neck like the back; centre of breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts pure white, the sides of the body ashy; sides of upper breast brown, with hoary whitish edges to the feathers; axillaries and under wing-coverts white; quills dusky below, ashy whitish along the edge of the inner web; "bill black; feet black; iris grey" (*Richards*). Total length 3·5 inches, culmen 0·45, wing 2·3, tail 1·15, tarsus 0·55. (*Mus. H. B. Tristram.*)

The Plate represents the individual above described, of the natural size, in two positions.

[R. B. S.]