

## ZOSTEROPS LONGIROSTRIS, *Ramsay*.

### Heath-Island White-eye.

*Zosterops longirostris*, Ramsay, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. iii. p. 288 (1879), iv. p. 100 (1879).—Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. xvi. p. 82 (1880).—Id. Orn. Papuasias, etc. ii. p. 372 (1881).—Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. ix. p. 189 (1884).

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MR. RAMSAY having brought the type of this interesting White-eye to England, an opportunity was offered us of figuring it, which we gladly accepted, as the difficulty of determining the species of *Zosterops* from descriptions alone is well known to every student of this difficult group. The original specimen of *Zosterops longirostris* was discovered by Mr. Kendal Broadbent on Heath Island, off the south coast of New Guinea, a locality which has not been found by us in any atlas, but which is included by Mr. Ramsay under the heading of the South Cape District of New Guinea and the Louisiades.

This large species of *Zosterops* belongs to the brown-tailed section of the yellow-coloured group of the genus. It is distinguished from *Z. uropygialis* by having the head of the same colour as the back, and from *Z. brunneicauda* by its light brown bill and by the absence of any dusky spot in front of the eye.

The following is a description of the original specimen :—

*Adult male* (type of species). General colour above dull yellowish olive, a little yellower on the head and rump, the former with indistinct paler shaft-streaks on the forehead and sinciput; wing-coverts a little yellower than the mantle; bastard wing, primary-coverts, and quills dusky brown, externally washed with dull olive-yellow; tail-feathers pale brown, with dull olive-yellow edges; lores yellow; round the eye a ring of whitish feathers; ear-coverts olive-yellow, a little brighter than the crown; cheeks, throat, and centre of breast and abdomen clear yellow, deeper and slightly inclining to orange-yellow on the under tail-coverts; breast somewhat overshadowed with greenish; sides of body and flanks decidedly greenish; thighs yellow; under wing-coverts and axillaries pale yellow with whitish bases, brighter on the edge of the wing; quills light brown below, whitish along the edge of the inner web. Total length 4·2 inches, culmen 0·7, wing 2·5, tail 1·8, tarsus 0·75.

The figures in the accompanying Plate represent the species of the natural size.

[R. B. S.]