ZOSTEROPS FUSCIFRONS, Salvad.

Dusky-fronted White-eye.

Zosterops fuscifrons, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. xii. p. 339 (1878), xvi. p. 80 (1880).—Id. Orn. Papuasia, etc. ii. p. 365 (1881).—Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. ix. p. 201 (1884).

This species comes from Gilolo or Halmahera, in the Moluccas, and is very nearly allied to Z. atriceps from the neighbouring island of Batchian; but it has not so much black on the head as that bird, only the sinciput and lores are dusky, the occiput and nape being yellowish olive like the back.

The typical specimens were three in number, and were procured by the late Dr. Bernstein near Galela in the island above mentioned, and were sent by him to the Leyden Museum. During a visit to Leyden in the autumn of 1883, we examined these types and were allowed by Professor Schlegel to bring one of them to England, and have thus been enabled to figure the species in the present work.

The following is a translation of Count Salvadori's original diagnosis, which, by an accidental omission, has not been acknowledged in the 'Catalogue of Birds' (l. c.):—

Very similar to Z. atriceps of Gray, but having only the sinciput and the lores dusky; the occiput, hind neck, and cheeks yellowish olive, uniform with the back, and not dusky at all; wings and tail dusky, margined with yellowish olive; under surface of body white, with the exception of the under tail-coverts, which are yellow; round the eye a conspicuous ring of white feathers. Total length 4.25 inches, wing 2.1, bill 0.8, tarsus 0.6.

The figures in the Plate represent an adult bird of the natural size in two positions; they are drawn from one of the typical specimens lent to us by the late Professor Schlegel.

[R. B. S.]