

## PIEZORHYNCHUS BRODIEI.

### Brodie's Flycatcher.

*Monarcha brodiei*, Ramsay, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. iv. p. 80 (1878).—Salvad. Ibis, 1880, p. 129.—Id. Orn. Papuasias, etc. ii. p. 26 (1880).

*Monarcha barbata*, Ramsay, Nature, xx. p. 125 (1879).

*Monarcha barbatus*, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. iv. p. 507 (1879).

THIS species belongs to a group of Flycatchers of the genus *Piezorhynchus*, which seems to be peculiar to the Solomon Islands, for its members do not agree with any of the Papuan or Moluccan forms of the genus. In the white under surface, black throat, and black ear-coverts the present bird approaches *P. guttulatus*, which it also resembles in having white tips to the outer tail-feathers; but its entirely black upper surface distinguishes it at once both from *P. guttulatus* and *P. morotensis*, which are grey above.

The habitat of the present species is the Solomon Archipelago, where it was found by Mr. Cockerell in Guadalcanar and Lango.

We describe the typical examples as follows:—

*Adult male.* General colour above blue-black, the feathers of the head rather velvety in texture, and scale-like on the fore part of the crown; scapulars black; least wing-coverts black, tipped with white where they adjoin the median series, which, with the greater coverts, are pure white with concealed black bases; bastard wing, primary-coverts, and quills black; tail-feathers black, the three outer feathers tipped with white; lores, feathers below the eye, fore part of cheeks, and ear-coverts blue-black; a large patch of white extending from the hinder cheeks along the sides of the neck and united to the breast; throat black, the feathers long, rounded, and scale-like; rest of under surface of body from the lower throat downwards pure white; thighs black, edged with white; axillaries and under wing-coverts white, with a black patch near the edge of the wing; quills blackish below, ashy along the edge of the inner web. Total length 5·7 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 2·95, tail 2·6, tarsus 0·75.

*Adult female.* Different from the male. General colour above brown, with faintly indicated dusky centres to the feathers of the forehead and crown, which are denser and somewhat scaly in appearance; lesser wing-coverts like the back; the median series white at base and pale fulvous brown at the ends, forming an indistinct wing-bar; greater series dark brown, edged externally with reddish brown; bastard wing and primary-coverts dark brown; quills dusky brown, externally of the same colour as the back; upper tail-coverts and tail-feathers black, the three outer ones broadly tipped with white, increasing in extent towards the outermost; lores dull whitish, obscured with dull brown tips to the feathers; eyelid dusky slate-colour; ear-coverts dusky grey; cheeks and sides of neck pale orange-rufous; throat scaly in appearance, as in the male, and of a dusky grey colour washed with fulvous brown; fore neck and sides of breast pale orange-rufous, extending on to the flanks; centre of breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts white, with a slight tinge of orange-buff; thighs grey; under wing-coverts and axillaries light orange-rufous; quills dusky below, whitish along the edge of the inner web. Total length 5·5 inches, culmen 0·6, wing 3·0, tail 2·7, tarsus 0·75.

The typical specimens are represented in the Plate, of the size of life, together with a young male in intermediate plumage; and we have to thank Mr. E. P. Ramsay for the opportunity of describing and figuring these interesting specimens.

[R. B. S.]