

## HETERANAX MUNDUS.

### Forbes's Pied Flycatcher.

*Monarcha mundus*, Slater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1883, p. 54, pl. xii. fig. 2.

IN describing this species, Dr. Slater seems to have had some suspicion that it was not a typical *Monarcha*, for he figures the bill alongside that of *M. castus*, in order to show the difference between them. On the arrival of the typical specimens in the British Museum, we at once compared them with those species which seemed to be their natural allies in the genus *Piezorhynchus*, and we found that the Timor-Laut bird differed in the structure of its bill from all of them. It is closely allied to the Australian genus *Sizura*; but the latter has the bill flattened, although it is very narrow; whereas in *M. mundus* the bill is not only narrow, but is strongly compressed, so that it is higher than broad at the nostrils. Under these circumstances, we have felt compelled to propose the new generic term of *Heteranax* (ἑτερος = alter, and ἀναξ = rex).

Mr. Forbes informs us that he shot this species near the village of Waitidal, on the island of Larat; it was found not far from the coast.

The following description is taken from the original specimens:—

*Adult male.* General colour above iron-grey, with a band of silky white plumes across the rump; wing-coverts glossy blue-black, including the bastard wing and primary-coverts; quills black, externally edged with iron-grey, broader on the secondaries; upper tail-coverts and four central tail-feathers blue-black, the next pair with a white spot near the tip, the latter fringed with black, the other feathers broadly ending in white, increasing in extent towards the outermost, where the white occupies the terminal half of the feather; forehead, lores, a narrow superciliary line, ear-coverts, and feathers round the eye velvety black; feathers below the eye, cheeks, sides of face, and sides of neck pure white; base of cheeks and centre of throat black; sides of the throat and rest of the under surface pure white, with a slight wash of grey on the flanks; thighs black; under wing-coverts and axillaries pure white; edge of wing black; quills dusky blackish below, ashy along the edge of the inner web. Total length 6·4 inches, culmen 0·7, wing 3·25, tail 2·8, tarsus 0·85.

*Adult female.* Like the male, but with the black not extending so far down the throat. Wing 3·1 inches.

Dr. Slater having very kindly lent us the typical pair of specimens, before their deposition in the British Museum, we have been enabled to give a figure of them both. They are represented in the Plate, of the size of life.

[R. B. S.]