

ERYTHROTRIORCHIS DORIAE.

Marquis Doria's Goshawk.

Megatriorchis doriae, Salvad. & D'Albert. Ann. Mus. Civic. Genov. vii. p. 805 (1875).—Gurney, Ibis, 1877, p. 436.

—Id. Ibis, 1878, p. 87.—Salvad. Orn. Papuasias e delle Molucche, i. p. 41 (1880).—Gurney, List of Diurnal Birds of Prey, p. 45 (1884).

Erythrotriorchis doriae, Sharpe, Journ. Linn. Soc., Zool. xvii. p. 406 (1884).

THIS is one of the finest discoveries made by the celebrated Italian traveller D'Albertis during his voyage to South-eastern New Guinea, and it is one of the peculiar forms which inhabit both that great island and Northern Australia.

The original specimen came from Hall Bay, in South-eastern New Guinea, and this is the bird which forms the principal figure in the Plate, and which we consider to be immature. The second specimen figured in the Plate is apparently a fully adult bird, and was obtained by Mr. Goldie on the Astrolabe Mountains in South-eastern New Guinea. We believe it to be an adult male, and the type to be an immature female, notwithstanding some discrepancies in the proportions of the quills and tail-feathers exhibited by the two specimens. If we are correct in thus assigning the relation of these two individuals, then it is evident that the genus *Megatriorchis* is the same as the Australian genus *Erythrotriorchis*, of which *E. radiatus* is the representative species on the latter continent. A larger number of specimens is, however, requisite to settle the point satisfactorily.

The following are exact descriptions of the two specimens referred to:—

Adult. General colour above glossy black, with nearly obsolete rufous margins to the feathers of the upper surface; wing-coverts black, very plainly and broadly edged with chestnut; bastard-wing and primary-coverts black, with indistinct bars of ashy brown, nearly obsolete on the bastard-wing; quills black, barred across with brown, these bars less distinct on the inner webs; tail-feathers black, barred with ashy grey, about twelve bars being discernible on the central feathers; the outer tail-feathers with about the same number of brown bars, as well as one at the tip; crown of head uniform black, the nape crested; feathers below the eye and ear-coverts black, the feathers edged with rufous buff, imparting a streaked appearance; cheeks and throat rufescent buff, streaked with black down the centre of the feathers; remainder of under surface white, broadly streaked with black, and marked slightly with chestnut, especially on the sides of the body; the black bars rather broken up and in the form of large spots on the flanks, abdomen, and under tail-coverts; thighs broadly barred with black and white, with a chestnut spot in the centre of the black bars; under wing-coverts black in the centre, rufous or rufous white on the edges; the lower series blackish, barred with ashy or greyish white like the lower surface of the quills. Total length 20 inches, culmen 1.05, wing 12.8, tail 10.0, tarsus 3.1.

Immature. General colour above brown, regularly barred across with lighter brown, the edges of the feathers rather more rufous or fawn-coloured; head brown, streaked with rufous, the feathers edged with this colour and having creamy white bars; broad eyebrow of white feathers streaked with black; a small crest of pointed plumes; nape-plumes white, with a rufous tinge, and mesially streaked with black; hind neck like the back, but more mottled with black spade-shaped terminal spots to the feathers; wing-coverts ashy brown, tipped with fawn-colour, and broadly barred across with darker brown; quills ashy brown, broadly barred across with blackish brown for their entire length, the interspaces on the secondaries lighter, these quills being much paler tipped; upper tail-coverts and tail-feathers ashy brown, tipped with greyish, slightly tinged with rufous on the former, the tail-feathers crossed with twelve bars of blackish brown; sides of face and ear-coverts white, the feathers mesially streaked with dark brown, the ear-coverts tipped with blackish brown, forming a distinct patch; under surface of body creamy white, streaked with dark brown, very narrowly on the throat, broader on the abdomen and lower breast, the thighs and under tail-coverts with nearly obsolete mesial streaks; fore neck and breast broadly streaked with light rufous, browner on the former, the breast-feathers with a shaft-streak of dark brown; under wing-coverts and axillaries white, with a dark brown shaft-streak; quills ashy below, white near the base, barred with dark brown, the bars about nine in number: "bill black, the cere and eyelids ash-colour; feet whitish grey; iris chestnut-brown" (*D'Albertis*). Total length 7.5 inches, culmen 1.7, wing 13.7, tail 12.8, tarsus 3.4.

The principal figure in our Plate is drawn from the type specimen, *Megatriorchis doriae*, which was kindly lent to me by the Marquis Doria. The hinder figure is taken from the specimen in the British Museum, which we have identified as the adult male of the species.

[R. B. S.]