

COELIGENA PURPUREA.

Purple Cœligene.

I HAVE lately received from M. Parzudaki, of Paris, a fine specimen of this bird, which I believe to be from the neighbourhood of Popayan ; a second example forms part of the collection of Edward Wilson, Esq., and is said to have been killed in Peru. Both specimens appear to be fully adult, and, like the *Cœligena typica*, they are never adorned with any other metallic colouring than that which occurs on the beautiful fringe-like edges of the feathers of the lower part of the back and rump.

The *Cœligena purpurea* is a larger and more powerful bird than *C. typica*, and differs also from that species in the much deeper colour of the tail, in the rich purple hue of its head, neck and shoulders, and in having a somewhat obscure lunate mark of white on each side the chest ; in this last particular it offers an alliance to the *Wilsoni*, but from which also I am convinced it is specifically distinct.

The shoulders bluish purple ; head, neck, back and wing-coverts very dark purple, becoming of a bronzy hue on the lower part of the back and rump, where also the feathers are fringed with metallic grass-green, most conspicuous when the bird is viewed from behind ; tail very dark bronzy purple ; wings purplish brown ; on each side the chest a lunate mark of white ; the remainder of the under surface very dark purplish brown ; the feathers of the throat edged with grey, giving that part a scaly appearance, and the under tail-coverts with buff.

The figures represent the bird of the size of life.