CHALCOPSITTACUS SCINTILLATUS.

CHALCOPSITTACUS SCINTILLATUS (*Temm.*).

Red-Fronted Lory.

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Eos rubrifrons, Gray, List Psitt. Brit. Mus. p. 53 (1859).—Id. Cat. B. New Guinea, pp. 39, 59 (1859).—Rosenb. Journ. für Orn. 1864, p. 114.—Id. Reis. naar Zuidoostereil., p. 48 (1867).
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Chalcopsitta chloropterus, Ramsay, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. iii. p. 254 (1878-9).

THE above intricate synonymy has been copied from Count Salvadori's grand work on the Ornithology of Papuasias. Indeed it would be difficult to write the synonymy of any New-Guinea bird without reproducing what has been written by the learned Italian ornithologist, so completely does he seem to have exhausted the literature of his subject.

The Red-fronted Lory appears to be found in New Guinea and the Aru Islands; in the latter locality it cannot be very rare, and many specimens were collected by Dr. Beccari during his expedition to these islands in the spring of 1873. According to Baron von Rosenberg the inhabitants call the bird *Jaran-kra*.

In New Guinea it was met with by Salomon Müller at Lobo Bay, and in the north-west part of the island it has been procured by Dr. A. B. Meyer at Rubi, by Baron von Rosenberg at Jour, a place situated at the very lowest part of the Bay of Geelvink, and at Mesan by Dr. Beccari. In south-eastern New Guinea it has been met with by Signor D'Albertis on the Fly River, and also in the neighbourhood of Hall Bay, while Mr. Octavius Stone got specimens in the vicinity of Port Moresby. The greater amount of green on the under wing-coverts in some of the more southern specimens induced Count Salvadori at one time to consider them a distinct species, which he called *C. chloropterus*; and at one time we were ourselves inclined to believe in the validity of this species. But, after an examination of more extensive material, Count Salvadori finds great variation to exist in the colouring of these parts, and he has decided to suppress the supposed southern species.

The following description is taken from Count Salvadori's work :—

"Green; the middle of the back and rump brighter and more blue, with very narrow shaft-streaks of yellow; sinciput and lores red; the sides of the head and chin dark brown, almost blackish; occiput dark

brown, the feathers streaked in the middle with green ; the neck, the interscapular region, the breast, and abdomen green, ornamented with yellow shaft-streaks ; the streaks on the breast broader and more orange in tint ; throat dull green varied with red ; thighs red ; under tail-coverts green, very narrowly streaked with yellow towards the tip ; wings externally green, the median and lesser coverts very narrowly streaked with bright green, the lesser coverts somewhat bluish ; under wing-coverts and axillaries red ; quills green on the outer web, dusky on the inner one, with a very broad yellow patch towards the base of the inner web, tail-feathers green above, red for the basal half of the inner web ; the apical part of the tail-feathers underneath yellowish olive ; bill, cere, and feet black ; iris orange yellow." The sexes are alike ; but the young bird has the whole of the head dark brown, with the streaks on the neck and breast fiery orange, more or less broad in their extent.

The figures in the Plate represent, of about the natural size, two adult birds, drawn from specimens in my own collection.

[R. B. S.]

Gould, John and Sharpe, Richard Bowdler. 1883. "Chalcopsittacus scintillatus, Red-fronted Lory [Pl. 38]." *The birds of New Guinea and the adjacent Papuan islands : including many new species recently discovered in Australia* 5(XIV), –. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322882>.

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