

brown; bill and irides black. Length, $4\frac{5}{8}$ inches; wing 2, tail $\frac{7}{8}$, bill $1\frac{3}{4}$, tarsus $\frac{1}{4}$. This bird is found in the same locality as the preceding. Its habits are similar.

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PAPER III.

SHORT notice of two birds new to the Australian Fauna, read by Mr. Diggles, 28th May, 1874.

PTILONOPUS CHRYSOGASTER.

The natural habitat of this species is probably New Guinea. The specimen, of which my drawing is a representation, was shot by Mr. Cockerell, near Cape York. It much resembles *P. Swainsoni* both in size and coloration, the principal differences being the absence of the red or pink crown, and also the large portion of the under surface, which, in *P. Swainsoni*, is first black, followed by crimson and orange, the under tail coverts are also orange, whereas in *P. Chryso-gaster* a central patch of orange alone exists. The chest is sparsely freckled, and the tips of the tail feathers are also greyish green, and not yellow as in *Swainsoni*. The drawings before you will sufficiently show these distinctions. I have also this opportunity of showing all the species of *Ptilonopus* at present known to Australia, and to correct an error which authors have fallen into in reference to the female of *P. Superbus*, which has been figured as a distinct species by Temminck, and named *Cyaneo virens*. These pigeons are nearly all of the same size, and doubtless assimilate in habit, the food being berries and small fruits. *P. Ewingi*, supposed by Mr. Gould, and figured by him as distinct, is only a variety of *P. Swainsoni*, and from numerous specimens of the latter which I have examined, I am perfectly satisfied as to the correctness of this conclusion.

NEW NECTARINEA.

So large a number of this beautiful genus having been described, and as the present drawing represents the only specimen that I am aware of having been obtained in Australia, I am unwilling to give a name to it, as in all probability it will be found already named, figured, and described in some of the great works. I have prepared the accompanying drawing for Mr. E. P. Ramsay, of Sydney, who has promised to find out from some of the works to which he has access whether or no such is the case; in the meantime I content myself with description and measurements. The family to which the bird belongs is known

under the name of Sun Birds, and fitly represent in our eastern hemisphere the humming birds of the western. Description: crown of the head, scapularies, the back and lateral tail feathers lustrous rifle green, chin and throat shining metallic purple, the rest of the plumage black, feet and bill black; size about 4 inches, wing $2\frac{3}{8}$, tail $\frac{7}{8}$, bill $\frac{3}{4}$, tarsus $\frac{1}{2}$ (estimated).

Two species are now known to Australia, and in all probability the new bird is a visitant probably from New Guinea. Many others are found in the E. I. Archipelago, India, &c., and from their great beauty are much sought after by collectors. Shot by Mr. Cockerell near Cape York.

JAMES C. BEAL, Government Printer, William street, Brisbane.



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