

Here the trees were matted together with creepers overhead, and climbing ferns (*Lygodium*) twined up the trunks in the shade beneath.

Two young Fijians went with me. We climbed the steep dark path for a long time without hearing any bird at all. To see a bird without having heard it first was, from the denseness of the foliage, impossible. At last we heard a curious low whistling cry of two constantly repeated notes. The natives soon made out the bird overhead, but it was long before I could get a glimpse of it amongst the leaves, and as they kept bringing me nearer and nearer, in order to show it to me, I was so close at last that it was nearly knocked to pieces by a charge of No. 12 shot. It is a constant difficulty in collecting birds in these dense tropical woods, that they are only able to be distinguished at very close quarters.

The bird proved to be a new species of Pigeon, *Chrysæna viridis* (Layard), peculiar to Kandavu Island. It is small and of a yellowish-green colour, with a yellow head. The pigeons of the genus *Chrysæna* have a very remarkable structure in the feathers of the breast and neck. The barbs of these feathers are devoid of barbules, but are provided instead with a series of small swellings, ranged at intervals along them. The plumage of the bird has thus, to the naked eye, a peculiar loose appearance.

The Kandavu Island birds were formerly erroneously supposed to be the young of another Fijian species, *Chrysæna luteovirens*, and we thus, considering all our specimens to be young, concluded that this circumstance explained the peculiar whistling note of the birds, which is quite unlike that of other full grown pigeons. We obtained a specimen of a closely similar bird from Taviuni, in which the plumage is of the brightest orange (*Chrysæna victor*).

As we crossed a small clearing, I shot a large Fruit-pigeon (*Carpophaga pacifica*) which flew across; the same bird which is so common in Tonga. On returning to the bottom of the valley, we heard the loud screams of the brightly coloured parrot, *Platycercus splendens*. There was a pair of the birds, but they were so wild that I could not get a shot. They are, however, not usually wild, and a large number were shot by some of the officers of the ship. By the bank of the stream I found a pair of the Kingfisher, which is so common in Tongatabu, *Halcyon sacra*.

A large green Lizard, which is found at Kandavu and, I believe, in the other members of the Fiji group, was brought to us alive. The Lizard (*Chloroscirtes fasciatus*) is an Agamid, of a genus peculiar to the Fiji group. It measures more than