

In our Ornithology of Central Polynesia we followed Professor Schlegel in uniting the hawk of the Fijis with *Astur cruentus* of Australia; but, as on some other occasions, we depended too much on Professor Schlegel's authority, and Professor Schlegel has since declared himself to have been in error. Not having access to specimens, I cannot myself judge of the correctness of Professor Schlegel's new view; but the fine series now before me inclines me to believe that *Astur rufitorques* is most probably peculiar to the Fiji group, and not the same species as is distributed widely in the Malay archipelago and usually known as *Astur griseigularis* and *Astur henicogrammus*, Gray (= *Astur æquatorialis*, Wall.).

In coloration the Fiji specimens are pretty constant, all showing above a beautiful ashy-blue, beneath a fine vinaceous rufous, which latter forms also a broad neck-collar. This is less developed in No. 35, and looks rather imperfect. The under-surface in No. 62 shows a nearly obsolete undulation of narrow darker lines on the ventral region; the under wing-coverts in all the specimens before me are not "uniform white" as noted in his specific diagnosis by Mr Sharpe (*l. c.*, p. 95); but the white is washed with delicate pale vinaceous, which shows in Nos. 34 and 80 faint darker undulations. An old specimen of *Astur griseigularis* is generally conspicuously darker, slaty-brownish on the back, wings, and tail, the underparts also dark vinaceous-rufous, with perceptible narrow light cross bands (agreeing exactly with figs. 3, 4, taf. xiv., in Schleg. Vog. van Nederl. Indië). A young bird of *Astur griseigularis* hardly shows any difference from our young male (No. 36), except that the lores, cheeks, and a median stripe on the chin are decidedly ashy.

## 2. *Platycercus splendens*, Peale.

*Platycercus splendens*, Finsch, Mon. Papag., vol. ii. p. 237; Layard, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1875, p. 425; Ibis, 1876, p. 143 (first race only); Finsch, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1877, p. 728.

[No. 52.	Kandavu.	Male.	Eyes red.
No. 53.	"	"	"
No. 63.	"	"	"
No. 112.	"	"	Eyes orange, feet and bill black.
No. 64.	"	Female.	Eyes yellow.

These Parrots were very common in Kandavu, in large flocks, and made a screaming noise when settling on the trees.]

All the specimens agree among themselves; all show a blue neck-collar, but it differs in extent, in one (No. 112) being interrupted by green; none of them have red spots on the rump, such as are sometimes shown in *Platycercus tabuensis*. The size varies a good deal; wings 8 inches to 8 inches 8 lines.