

On comparing the measurements above given with those of the Tongatabu specimens, Mr Murray's opinion as to the smaller size of the Fiji birds seems to be confirmed; but a reference to the table of measurements published by me (Journ. f. Orn., 1870, p. 126), taken from 29 specimens from the Navigators' and Tonga groups (those of the latter series having been sent over in spirits, and mostly dissected by myself), will show all gradations of size, and the impossibility of separating the Fiji bird on account of its smaller dimensions. In coloration specimens from the Fijis, Tonga, and Navigators' are precisely alike.

The occurrence of the true *Ptilotis carunculata* on the Fijis (doubted by me, Journ. f. Orn., 1872, p. 36) has been already established by Mr Layard. According to this gentleman the species is confined to the island of Loma Loma. He endeavours also to introduce a new species (*Ptilotis similis*), said to be peculiar to the island of Vanua Levu; but the short diagnosis (Ibis, 1876, p. 148), "having pale yellowish grey ear-tufts instead of bright golden yellow," seems to me insufficient to distinguish it. Perhaps it will turn out to be *Ptilotis procerior*.

Mr Layard also remarks that in our Ornithology of Central Polynesia, we wrongly describe the iris to be white, as it is in fact brown or ashy-brown. As we never had an opportunity of seeing the bird alive, we could follow only the notice of Dr Gräffe, who gave the iris as "white;" but we also noticed "brown" (*Peale*), "ashy-grey" (*Latham*), and "blue-black" (*Forster*).

11. *Ptilotis procerior*, F. & H. (Pl. XII. fig. 2).

*Ptilotis procerior*, F. & H., Orn. Central-Polyn., p. 62, taf. v. fig. 3; Layard, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1875, p. 431; Finsch, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1877, p. 732.

[Nos. 73 and 74. Males. Levuka.]

This species is well distinguished from the former (*Ptilotis carunculata*) by having no true wattle, but a naked space below the ear-region, surrounded by a blackish line, and by the absence of the yellow moustache, which is always visible in *Ptilotis carunculata*. The figure (Pl. XII. fig. 2) is taken from specimen 74.

Through the Museum Godeffroy I have received many specimens for inspection from the following localities:—Ovalau, Vatu Lele, Vanua Levu, and Lavu-savu.

Young birds are of a sombre olive, without the yellowish tinge on the throat and breast. The size is also very variable, as is shown by the following table of measurements:—