



ARSES TELESCOPHTHALMUS.

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Frilled-necked Flycatcher.

Muscicapa telescophtalma, Garnot, Voy. Coquille, i. pt. 2, p. 593, pl. 19. fig. 1 (1826).

Muscicapa enado, Less. Voy. Coquille, i. pt. 2, p. 643, pl. 15. fig. 2 (1826).—Sclater, Proc. Linn. Soc. 1858, p. 181.

Arses telescophtalmus, Lesson, Traité, p. 387 (1831).—Bp. Consp. i. p. 326 (1850).—Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civ. Genov. x. p. 132 (1877).—Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iv. p. 409 (1879).

Monarcha telescophtalma, Swains. Classif. B. ii. p. 257 (1837).—Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 260 (1846).—Id. P. Z. S. 1858, p. 177, 1859, p. 156.—Id. Cat. B. N. Guinea, p. 30 (1859).—Id. P. Z. S. 1861, p. 435.—Finsch, Neu-Guinea, p. 169 (1865).—Gray, Handl. B. i. p. 320 (1869).

Monacha telescophtalma, Swains. Nat. Libr. Flycatchers, p. 140 (1837).

ALL the species of the genus *Arses* are remarkable for a frill or tippet round the back part of the neck, and for a naked skin of blue which surrounds the eye; the former, it appears, the bird has the power of erecting. That the appearance which I have given to the present species in the accompanying Plate is no exaggeration may be believed from the fact that Signor D'Albertis brought me a specimen, killed by himself, dried in an erect position, in order to show the way in which these birds are capable of elevating this frill. Mr. Broadbent had also preserved some of his specimens with an evident view to show this peculiarity. The present species has been known the longest, having been described in 1826. It appears to be confined to Northern New Guinea and to Mysol, whence numerous specimens have been sent to England, and where a large series also appears to have rewarded the exertions of the Dutch and Italian travellers. It is to be recognized from the allied species by its larger black chin-spot. The female may be told at a glance from the same sex of *A. aruensis* by its white lores, and from the females of *A. batantæ* and *A. insularis* by its deep orange-chestnut back, which renders the orange collar round the hind neck only a little darker than the rest of the upper surface. The head is blackish or very dark grey; and the colour of the tail, which is rufous-brown edged with chestnut, is also a distinguishing peculiarity of the species. For the following descriptions I am indebted to Mr. Sharpe's Catalogue:—

“*Adult male*. General colour glossy steel-black; the scapulars and lower mantle-feathers white at their ends, where they adjoin the lower back, which, with the rump, is white, the bases to the feathers being grey; wings entirely black; upper tail-coverts and tail black; crown of head, sides of face and ear-coverts, fore part of cheeks, chin, and upper throat black, the plumes of the head of a velvety texture, and with a slight steel gloss; hinder part of cheeks, sides of neck, and a collar round the hind neck, as well as entire under surface of body pure white, including the under wing-coverts and axillaries; thighs black, as also the edge of the wing; ‘bill pearly grey; feet dull lead-colour or ashy; iris black; fleshy wattle round the eye sky-blue’ (*D'Albertis*).

“Total length 6·4 inches, culmen 0·6, wing 3·15, tail 2·85, tarsus 0·7.

“*Adult female*. General colour orange-brown, brighter on the hind neck; wings dusky brown, all the coverts and quills externally orange-brown or rufous; crown of head dull slate-colour, as well as the feathers round and below the eye; in front of the latter a large spot of dull white; sides of face, sides of neck, throat, and breast orange; remainder of under surface pure white, the flanks washed with reddish brown; thighs entirely of the latter colour; under wing-coverts whitish, washed slightly with orange; quills dull brown below, rufous along the inner webs; ‘bill dusky; feet ashy; iris black’ (*D'Albertis*).

“Total length 6·3 inches, culmen 0·6, wing 3·2, tail 2·9, tarsus 0·65.”

Fine specimens of this bird are in my own collection; it will also be found in the British Museum, and Leyden, Dresden, and many other collections both on the Continent and in America.



Gould, John and Sharpe, Richard Bowdler. 1879. "Arses telescopthalmus, Frilled-necked Flycatcher [Pl. 40]." *The birds of New Guinea and the adjacent Papuan islands : including many new species recently discovered in Australia* 2(X), –. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322695>.

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