



CASUARIUS BICARUNCULATUS, *Sclater*.

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Two-wattled Cassowary.

Casuarius bicarunculatus, Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1860, pp. 211, 248.—Id. Trans. Zool. Soc. iv. p. 359, pl. lxxiii. (1860).—Schlegel, Nederl. Tijdschr. Dierk. 8vo, iii. p. 347 (1866).—Gray, Hand-l. B. iii. p. 2, no. 9849 (1871).—Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1872, p. 495, pl. xxvi.; 1875, p. 87.—Harting, in Mosenthal & Harting, Ostriches & Ostrich-farming, p. 111 (1877).
——— *aruensis*, Schlegel, Nederl. Tijdschr. Dierk. 8vo, iii. p. 347 (1866).

In the year 1860 the Zoological Society of London obtained from the sister Society in Rotterdam a young Cassowary, which, although in immature plumage and with the casque only slightly developed, was recognized by Dr. Sclater as a new species on account of the position of the neck wattles far apart, which rendered the bird, even in its young stage, easily recognizable from the common Cassowary (*C. galeatus*). Before this specimen became fully adult it unfortunately died, but not before an excellent coloured picture had been made from the living bird, and had been published by Dr. Sclater in the 'Transactions' of the Zoological Society. A second example was received in 1869, but also died before reaching maturity. In the 'Proceedings' for 1872, however, a fully adult bird was figured by Dr. Sclater from a specimen purchased by the Society from Mr. Jamrach, who obtained it in Calcutta, and the distinctness of the species was placed beyond all question. Besides the different arrangement of the neck-wattles, it differs from *C. galeatus*, to which the form of the casque somewhat allies it, in having the latter very much smaller and rising from a much smaller base on the vertex; the colouring of the head and neck is also different.

The habitat of this species is now known to be the Aru Islands, where specimens have been procured for the Leyden Museum by Baron von Rosenberg; and of these a description was given in 1866 by Professor Schlegel, who states that in a young specimen there was found no trace of any caruncles at all.

The figures in the Plate have been drawn by me from the living specimen in the Zoological Gardens. It is not necessary to do more than to show the head and neck in these Cassowaries, as the bodies in all the species are always black. I have therefore delineated the head and neck of the bird, in such a way as to show the distinctive casque and the bright colouring which adorns the neck in the present species.



Gould, John and Sharpe, Richard Bowdler. 1881. "Casuarius bicarunculatus, Two-wattled Cassowary [Pl. 73]." *The birds of New Guinea and the adjacent Papuan islands : including many new species recently discovered in Australia* 5(XII), -. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322917>.

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