

PTILOTIS FASCIOGULARIS, *Gould.*

Fasciated Honey-eater.

Ptilotis fasciogularis, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., part xix. p. 285.

It is pleasing to record for the first time a new species so well marked as the present, and differing as it does from all other members of its genus, in the distinct bars of pale yellow and brown which occupy the throat and fore part of the neck, whence its specific name of *fasciogularis*; perhaps *fasciigularis* would have been more correct, and if such should be the opinion of learned grammarians, I would suggest that the latter spelling be the one adopted. All the specimens of this new bird that have yet come under my notice were sent to me a few years since by Mr. Strange, who collected them on the low swampy islands lying off the eastern coast of Australia, to the northward of Moreton Bay. Some of them have the locality of Mangrove Island, Moreton Bay, written on the labels attached to them: it would seem then that the islands lying off this coast generally are their proper home. My specimens comprise examples of both sexes, ascertained by actual dissection, and the only difference between them consists, as is usual with the other members of the genus, in the smaller size of the female, their markings and colouring being alike.

For a *Ptilotis* this is a large and robust species, equalling in size the *P. chrysotis*, to which it bears the nearest affinity.

All the upper surface, wings and tail olive-brown, the feathers of the head and back with darker centres, and the primaries and tail-feathers narrowly margined externally with wax-yellow; lores and a streak down the side of the head from the posterior angle of the eye blackish-brown; ear-coverts pale yellow; on each side of the neck a patch of yellowish-white; feathers of the throat brownish-black, each bordered with pale yellow, presenting a fasciated appearance; breast blackish-brown; under surface striated with brown and buff, becoming paler towards the vent; irides lead-colour; bill bluish-black, with a yellow gape; feet black.

The figures are of the natural size.