

**MALURUS PULCHERRIMUS.** *Mal. Mas: vertice, et fasciâ dorsali splendidè violaceo-cæruleis; orbitis et plumis auricularibus ex ærugine cæruleis; gulâ indico-cæruleâ, nigro subtùs indistinctè marginatâ; plumis scapularibus castaneis; loris, nuchâ, et dorso imo holoserico-nigris. Fœm.: fusca, subtùs pallidior, orbitis rubidè fuscis.*

Crown of the head and a broad band across the centre of the back rich glossy violet-blue; space surrounding the eye and the ear-coverts verditer-blue; throat intense indigo-blue, bounded below by an indistinct band of black; lores, collar surrounding the back of the neck, and the lower part of the back, deep velvety black; scapularies chestnut; wings brown; tail dull greenish blue, indistinctly barred with a darker tint and slightly tipped with white; abdomen and under tail-coverts white; bill and feet black; irides dark brown.

Female dull brown, paler beneath; tail-feathers like those of the male, but less bright; bill and space round the eye reddish brown.

*Remarks.*—Very similar in its markings and general contour to *M. Lamberti*; it may however be always distinguished from that species by its larger size and by the deep indigo-blue colour of the throat and chest, which parts are black in *M. Lamberti*.

Total length,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches; bill,  $\frac{9}{16}$ ; wing, 2; tail,  $3\frac{1}{4}$ ; tarsi,  $\frac{1}{6}$ .

*Hab.* Western Australia.