

NOTE VII.

RHIPIDURA ELEGANTULA.

On a new *Rhipidura* from the Island of Lettie.

By R. Bowdler Sharpe, F. L. S. etc.

It is much to be regretted that we do not know more of the natural history of the island of Lettie, the little that we do know tending to shew that its Ornithology embraces some highly peculiar forms, witness the *Ptilopus cinctus lettiensis* of Schlegel (Mus. Pays-Bas, Columbæ, p. 35). Lettie is a small island to the east of Timor.

The species of *Rhipidura* found there is a very striking one, and I propose to call it

Rhipidura elegantula, sp. n.

R. affinis R. squamatae ex Bandâ, sed capite nuchâque cinnamomeis dorso concoloribus, et pectore albo, nec nigro alboque squamato, valde diversa.

Hab. in insulâ 'Lettie' dictâ.

Adult male. General colour above bright cinnamon-rufous, rather lighter on the back, rump, and upper tail-coverts: wings ashy brown with reddish margins to the wing-coverts and quills, a little plainer on the secondaries, the greater coverts fulvescent at their tips: tail-feathers ashy brown, rufous at the extreme base and for a little extent of the margins of both webs, all tipped with white, increasing in extent on the outer feathers, and extending also some distance up the outer web of the exterior feather: forehead conspicuously white, extending backwards above

Notes from the Leyden Museum.

the fore part of the eye: a narrow frontal line of black plumelets tipped with rufous: lores, feathers round the eye and ear-coverts black: cheeks and throat white, extending backwards in a triangular mark on the sides of the neck: across the throat a black band, separating the white throat from the rest of the under surface, which is also white, slightly washed with buff on the sides of the body: the feathers on the fore neck adjoining the black throat-band with black bases, producing a mottled appearance, when the plumage is disturbed: thighs white with brown bases: under wing-coverts white: quills ashy brown below, whitish along the inner web. Total length 6.5 inches, culmen 0.5, wing 2.9, tail 3.9, tarsus 0.85.

Leyden Museum, Nov. 6, 1878.

R. B. S.