
THE CROWNED PIGEON OF BANDA.

THIS bird is called by the Dutch, *crown vogel*, and although it is in size as large as a turkey, there is no doubt of its belonging to the pigeon genus; its beak, head, neck, the whole form of its body, its legs, feet, claws, voice, manners, &c. decide it to be of that family. But, deceived by its size, some naturalists have hesitated to consider it as such, and have called it a *pheasant*. Edwards speaks of it thus: "It is of the family of pigeons, though as large as a middle sized turkey; M. Loten brought from India many of these birds alive.* It is a native of the island of Banda.

M. Loten

* Labillardiere, in his voyage in search of Peyrouse (vol. 2, p. 291) saw many crowned pheasants of the Indies, in the island of Waygiou. Sonnerat, in his voyage to New Guinea (p. 169, pl. civ.) has given a figure of one. He asserts that this bird does not inhabit the island of Banda, *but that it is to be found, and that it multiplies only in New Guinea.* Captain Forrest, in his voyage to the Moluccas, (p. 86)