



## PETROICA? CERVINIVENTRIS, *Gould.*

### Buff-sided Robin.

*Petroica cerviniventris*, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., part xxv. p. 221.

---

So far as regards Ornithological science, it was fortunate that Mr. Elsey remained for a long time encamped near the Victoria River, on the north-west coast of Australia, since it enabled him to pay some attention to the natural objects which surrounded him; and the discovery of the present bird, which is quite new to science, is one of the results of his long stay in that spot in charge of a portion of Mr. Gregory's Expedition. All who have read my work on the Birds of Australia, will have observed that a species of *Petroica* is figured in the third volume under the name of *P. superciliosa*, which bird was collected by the late Mr. Gilbert in the neighbourhood of the Burdekin Lakes, towards the Gulf of Carpentaria; with this species the one here figured is very nearly allied; and as both differ somewhat in form from the typical members of the genus, or true *Petroicæ*, it may in all probability be found necessary to institute a distinct genus for their reception: they are doubtless representatives of each other in the respective countries they inhabit, the *superciliosa* dwelling on the eastern parts of the continent, and the *cerviniventris* in the western.

The following is a correct description of the species:—

All the upper surface, wings, and tail chocolate-brown; line over the eye, throat, tips of the greater wing-coverts, base of the primaries, base and tips of the secondaries, and tips of the tail white; breast grey; abdomen deep fawn-colour, becoming almost white in the centre; bill black; feet blackish brown; irides dark brown.

The figures are of the natural size.