PUCRASIA NIPALENSIS, *Gould.*

Nepaul Pucras Pheasant.

Pucrasia Nipalensis, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc. April 11, 1854.

Of the three species of *Pucrasia*, the present is by far the most highly coloured and beautifully marked ; the mantle, the sides of the neck, and the flank feathers being conspicuously striated with black, chestnut and grey, while the same parts in the others are, as will be seen on reference to the respective plates, very different and sombre in comparison. In size it is the smallest bird of the three, and as regards rarity it is second only to the *Pucrasia castanea*; specimens, however, are contained in the collection at the British Museum, in that of the East India Company, and, I believe, in that of the Jardin des Plantes at Paris.

The native habitat of this fine Pheasant is Nepaul and Bhotan, whence, I believe, all of the specimens contained in the collections above mentioned have been sent by Mr. Hodgson.

Forehead, cheeks, chin and lengthened portion of the crest deep shining green; hinder part of the head and the shorter portion of the crest buff with lighter shafts, the two colours blending on the occiput; on each side the neck an oval spot of white; feathers of the sides and back of the neck and upper part of the back brownish black, with a narrow mark of rich chestnut down the centre, and edged with rufous or whitish; feathers of the lower part of the back brownish black, with white shafts and edges; wing-coverts blackish brown, with white shafts and margins; scapularies broadly margined with deep reddish buff; primaries brown on the internal web, deep buff on the outer; tertiaries pale chestnut, mottled with black along the shaft and towards the edge, which is sandy buff; throat, centre of the breast and abdomen rich chestnut; flank feathers brownish black with white shafts, bordered on each side by a very fine line of chestnut and narrowly edged with grey, the markings becoming larger and paler behind the thigh; under tail-coverts lively chestnut, with an oval spot of white at the tip of each; centre tail-feathers rufous, stained with black near the shaft, the remainder black on the inner web and at the tip; the outer webs chestnut, which colour curves round into and occupies a portion of the internal web near the tip, all fringed with white at the tip; bill black; feet horny brown.

Total length, $20\frac{3}{4}$ inches; wing, $8\frac{1}{2}$; tail, 9; tarsi, $2\frac{1}{2}$.

The figure is the size of life.