IYNGIPICUS PENINSULARIS, Hargitt.

Travancore Pygmy Woodpecker.

Picus nanus, Malherbe (nec Vigors), Monogr. Picid. p. 145, pl. xxxiii. figs. 1-5 (1861).—Sundevall, Consp. Av. Picin. p. 28 (1866).—Gray, Cat. Picidæ Brit. Mus. p. 42 (1868).—id. Hand-l. B. ii. p. 184, no. 8579 (1870).

Picus gymnophthalmus, auct. ex India (nec Blyth); Bourdillon, Str. F. 1876, p. 389. Iyngipicus peninsularis, Hargitt, Ibis, 1882, p. 48.

Although very closely allied to *I. gymnophthalmus* of Ceylon, the present species seems nevertheless to be positively distinct, and to have the top of the head brown instead of black, with the occiput shading off into a darker shade. The underparts in adult birds are perfectly uniform as in *I. gymnophthalmus*, but many specimens exhibit traces of dusky stripes, which we believe to be indications of immaturity. At the time of writing the 'Birds of India,' Dr. Jerdon does not seem to have been certain of the occurrence of a form of *I. gymnophthalmus* on the peninsula of India; but in 'The Ibis' for 1872 he states that one occurs in the extreme south of Malabar and Travancore, and Mr. Hume, in 1875, records it from the Malabar coast as well as Ceylon. It has also been included by Mr. F. W. Bourdillon in his list of the birds of the Travancore hills, in which locality, he writes, "it lives in the tops of trees, and is as difficult to observe as to shoot."

In the British Museum are some specimens stated to be from Madras; but, as in the case of so many of the older collections, the exact locality is not given.

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The figures in the Plate are drawn of the natural size.

[R. B. S.]