

TROGLODYTES NIPALENSIS, *Hodgs.*

Nepaulese Wren.

Troglodytes Nipalensis, Hodgs. Journ. Asiat. Soc. Beng., vol. xiv. p. 589.—Blyth, Cat. of Birds in Mus. of Asiat. Soc. Calcutta, p. 158.—Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av., p. 222, *Troglodytes*, sp. 3.

———— *subhemalayanus*, Hodgs. in Gray's Zool. Misc., p. 82.—Gray, Cat. of Spec. and Draw. of Mamm. and Birds pr. to Brit. Mus. by B. H. Hodgson, Esq., pp. 62—151.—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. i. p. 158, *Troglodytes*, sp. 2.

HERE we have a representative in the Himalayas and Nepaul of the Common European Wren (*Troglodytes Europæus*), the forms of the two birds being as similar as they well can be, but the Indian species has characters by which it may at all times be distinguished from the European one; it is rather smaller in size, has shorter wings and tail, is of a much darker colour, and has both the upper and under surface of nearly the same hue,—a dark reddish brown, transversely rayed with black.

In the whole of its habits and economy it doubtless as closely assimilates to its European ally as it does in its outward form. Among Mr. Hodgson's Drawings in the British Museum, this bird is figured under the MS. name of *T. subhemalayanus*, but I believe this appellation was never published by him, and I have therefore adopted the term of *Nipalensis*, which both Mr. Blyth and the Prince of Canino considered to be Mr. Hodgson's first name for the species.

The sexes do not present any difference whatever in colour or markings, but the female is a trifle less than the male in size.

I am indebted to H. E. Strickland, Esq., for the loan of examples of this bird, which with others in my own possession enables me to give correct delineations of this pretty representative of the European Wren.

The whole of the plumage dark chocolate-brown, transversely rayed with black, the rays showing conspicuously on the primaries, secondaries, tail-feathers and abdomen, where the chocolate hue is somewhat paler than on the other portions of the plumage: at the tip of each of the wing-coverts a minute spot of white; bill blackish brown; feet fleshy brown.

The figures are of the natural size.