

## ACCENTOR ATROGULARIS, *Brandt*.

### Black-throated Accentor.

*Accentor atrogularis*, Brandt, Bull. des Acad. des Sci. de St. Pétersb., i. no. 23 —Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. i. p. 187, *Accentor*, sp. 7.—Hutton, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Beng., vol. xviii. p. 811.—Blyth, Cat. of Birds in Mus. Asiat. Soc. Calcutta, p. 131.

——— *atrigrularis*, Bonap. Consp. Gen. Av., p. 305, *Accentor*, sp. 5.

——— *Huttoni*, Moore in Horsf. Cat. of Birds in Mus. East Ind. Comp., vol. i. p. 360.

---

I HAD long suspected that the descriptions of *Accentor atrogularis*, given by M. Brandt at St. Petersburg and Capt. Hutton in India, had reference to one and the same bird, and I therefore delayed figuring it until I was enabled to form a decided opinion upon the subject; I also questioned whether the bird from the Vienna Collection, figured by me in my "Birds of Europe" under the name of *Accentor montanellus*, might not be either a female or young of the same species; some of my specimens from the Himalaya having brown feathers interspersed here and there over the throat, suggesting that that part is not always black. I am satisfied that the Siberian and Himalayan birds described by Brandt and Hutton, together with the *Accentor Huttoni* of Moore, constitute but one and the same species; and this view of the subject is confirmed by Sir William Jardine, in a note received from him on the 22nd of December, 1854:—"Your specimen of *Accentor* is identical with the Siberian bird I have, which was sent by Brandt, and agrees with his description in the 'Bulletin' of the St. Petersburg Academy. Your specimen has the under parts of a deeper yellowish sienna tint than ours, which is nearly white in the centre of the belly: the same difference appears in the colour of the superciliary streak, which is nearly white in the Siberian bird. These differences are noticed by Brandt in his description. Your skin looks a little larger, but the wing is of the same length in both: the bill in your specimen is about the twentieth of an inch longer. I cannot separate them as species, either from each other or from Brandt's description. Your specimen is also identical with Hutton's *A. atrogularis*, in which the deeper tint of the under parts and the superciliary streak are mentioned." I ought perhaps to mention that Professor Brandt is inclined to believe that the *A. montanellus* of Temminck is not the bird to which Pallas gave the specific appellation of *montanellus*, but is either a variety of it or a distinct species, and in the belief that it would prove to be the latter, proposed for it the name of *A. Temmincki*; but Professor Blasius states that the *A. Temmincki* is not distinct from *A. montanellus*.

It is evident then that this bird is widely spread over the countries extending from the Himalayas to Siberia; all my specimens are from the subalpine districts of those lofty mountains, while Mr. Blyth states that those in the Museum of the Asiatic Society at Calcutta were from the Tyne range beyond Simla; those in the Museum of the Honourable East India Company are from Afghanistan, and those in the Museum of the Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg are from Semipalatinsk in Siberia.

Crown of the head dark greyish brown; face and throat black; above the eye, commencing at the nostrils, a narrow streak of buff, above which is another streak of black; upper surface greyish brown, with a streak of dark brown down the centre of each feather; wing-coverts greyish brown, with a mark of dark brown near the extremity, and tipped with buffy white; primaries and secondaries dark brown, the former narrowly and the latter broadly margined with light brown; tail light brown; under surface buff, streaked with brown on the flanks; irides dark brown; bill brown, lighter at the base; legs light brown.

The figures are the size of life.