

ACCENTOR RUBECULOIDES, *Moore*.

Red-breasted Accentor.

Accentor rubeculoïdes, Moore in Proc. of Zool. Soc. 1854, p. .—Horsf. Cat. of Birds in Mus. East Ind. Comp., vol. i. p. 361.

THIS is another of the many rare species which have been transmitted to this country from Nepaul by Mr. Hodgson: in applying the term "rare" to this bird, I consider I am justified, when I state that the two examples in the Museum of the Hon. East India Company are all that we have yet seen. It differs remarkably in the colouring of its plumage from every other known species, and belongs to that section of the Accentors to which the term *Tharrhaleus* has been given by Dr. Kaup, with the Hedge Accentor as the type. Of its habits and manners nothing is at present known, but I may venture to predicate that whenever we become acquainted with them, they will very closely resemble those of its near ally.

The markings of the two specimens above mentioned are very similar, but the rufous colouring of the breast is much deeper in one than in the other: this may be due to age, sex, or the seasons at which they were respectively killed.

Forehead and crown brown; throat and sides of the neck brownish-grey; lores speckled with greyish-white; upper surface reddish-brown, with a streak of blackish-brown down the centre of each feather; wings brown, margined with reddish-brown, and faintly spotted with greyish-brown at the tips of the coverts, forming two obscure broken bands across the wing; tail brown with lighter margins; across the breast a broad band of rusty-red, which colour extends over the flanks; centre of the abdomen buffy-white, the buffy tint increasing in depth towards the under tail-coverts, which are buff with a dark central streak; bill blackish-brown; feet reddish flesh-colour.

The figures are of the natural size.