

## DUMETIA HYPERYTHRA.

### Buff-throated Dumetia.

*Timalia hyperythra*, Frankl. in Proc. of Comm. of Sci. and Corr. of Zool. Soc., part i. p. 118.—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. i. p. 228, *Timalia*, sp. 8.—De la Fresnaye, Mag. de Zool. 1835, Ois. pl. 40 ?  
*Dumetia hyperythra*, Blyth, Cat. of Birds in Mus. Asiat. Soc. Calcutta, p. 140.

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How frequently have we occasion to regret not having access to the typical specimen when there occurs any doubt as to the identity of a rare or little-known species ! Major Franklin described a bird in the ‘ Proceedings of the Zoological Society ’ for 1831, now nearly thirty years ago, under the name of *Timalia hyperythra*. Unfortunately the specimen he described from cannot be discovered, and I fear is no longer in existence. I have regarded a bird which I find in my Collection, procured in Central India by the late Captain Boys, and which bears on its label the name of *Dumetia hyperythra*, as probably the same as that of Franklin ; at all events it closely agrees with his description, and I have therefore figured it under that name. It is nearly allied to *D. albogularis*, but differs from that bird in its somewhat smaller size and in the absence of white on the throat, and in having the crown of a deeper rufous tint, striated with buffy white.

Mr. Blyth states that the *D. hyperythra* inhabits Central India, and that the specimens in the Museum of the Asiatic Society at Calcutta had been procured in the Mednapur jungles.

I have quoted the Baron de la Fresnaye’s figure and description of a bird which he has called *D. hyperythra*, with a mark of interrogation, as I am very doubtful as to its being a representation of my bird, or that described by Franklin.

Head rusty red, striated with buffy white ; all the upper surface, wings, and tail very light brown ; the inner webs of the primaries somewhat darker ; under surface rich fawn-colour, deepest on the sides of the chest and breast.

The figures are of the natural size.