

NECTARINIA GOALPARIENSIS.

Goulpourah Sun-Bird.

Goulpourah Creeper, Lath. Gen. Hist., vol. iv. p. 221. pl. lxxiv.

Cinnyris miles, Hodgs. Ind. Rev. 1837, p. 273.

——— *labecula*, McClell. in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part VII. p. 167.

Nectarinia Seheria, Tickell, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Beng., vol. ii. p. 577.

——— *Goalpariensis*, Royle, Ill. Him. Bot., vol. ii. pl. 7. fig. 1.—Blyth, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Beng., vol. xii. p. 969.—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. i. p. 98.—Blyth, Cat. of Birds in Mus. Asiat. Soc. Calcutta, p. 223.—Jard. Nat. Lib. Sun-Birds, pp. 230, 267, pl. 27.

No one of the beautiful long-tailed *Nectariniæ* appears to be more widely dispersed over the northern and eastern portions of India than the *N. Goalpariensis*, which, as its name implies, and as is stated by Latham, is to be found at Goulpourah; it has also been obtained by Captain Tickell near Seheria in Borabhim; by Captain Boys at Bumourie; figured by Dr. Royle as an example of a tropical form from Deyra Doon; and Mr. Blyth states that it inhabits the sub-Himalayan regions generally, Central and Southern India, Sylhet, Aracan, and the Tenasserim provinces.

Of its habits and economy very little has been recorded; Captain Tickell states that he observed it flitting about the low willow bushes in the dried bed of a stream, and that it has no song, but a loud chirp. Captain Boys says its food consists of honey and insects; and Dr. Royle figures the nest of a pendulous form, but unfortunately has given no account whatever respecting the bird or its habits.

The male has the forehead and crown dark metallic greenish purple; on the nape a broad band of dark olive-green; back and wing-coverts very dark blood-red; wings brown margined with olive; across the rump a fan-shaped mark of pure yellow; upper tail-coverts glossy green; two central tail-feathers very dark glossy purplish green; lateral tail-feathers brown, glossed with rich purple on the basal three-fourths of their outer webs; throat and breast fine light blood-red, within which, proceeding from beneath the lower angle of the bill down either side, is a narrow line of beautiful steel-blue; abdomen pale olive-green, darkest where it meets the scarlet; irides dark brown; upper mandible black; lower mandible brown; legs and feet greyish black.

The female has the upper surface olive-green, becoming much paler beneath; under surface of the shoulder white; central tail-feathers olive-yellow; lateral tail-feathers blackish brown, tipped with white and margined externally with olive-yellow.

The Plate represents two males and a female of the natural size, on the *Clematis montana*.