TAB. XXVII.

ENICURUS MACULATUS.

En. capite, collo, dorso superiori, pectore, ptilis, remigibus secundariis, caudâque intensè atris; frontis notâ latâ, maculis confertis nuchæ et sparsis dorsi, pteromatibus, dorso imo, abdomine, rectricibus lateralibus, mediarumque apicibus albis; remigibus primariis fuscis; rostro nigro; pedibus albescentibus.

Statura *En. specioso* æqualis.

Longitudo *corporis*, 11 unc.

Two species of this remarkable genus have already been described, and it is with much pleasure that we now offer a third. The genus, we may observe, is exclusively confined to the Asiatic continent and the adjacent islands. This typical example may be at once distinguished from its congeners by the white spots upon the black ground of the back and mantle. In size it is rather less than the *Enicurus speciosus* of Dr. Horsfield, but the tail is considerably longer than in that bird. This elegant species has been received from the Himalayan mountains in considerable abundance; but we are not aware of its occurrence either in the low lands or islands. In its wild and native condition it is pre-eminently distinguished by the grace and vivacity of its actions, tripping along the ground with great ease and agility, like our Common Wagtails, but even, if possible, exceeding them in the elegance of its movements. Its food consists of insects. Of its nidification no information has yet reached us.

The forehead is white; the head, neck and breast, jet black; a band of thickly set white spots at the base of the neck advances forwards in a semilunar form; the back is black, thinly spotted with white; the shoulders, rump, abdomen, and two outer tail-feathers, are white; the wings brownish black; the inner tail-feathers are black tipped with white; the beak is black; the tarsi flesh colour.

The Plate represents an adult, in full plumage, of the natural size.