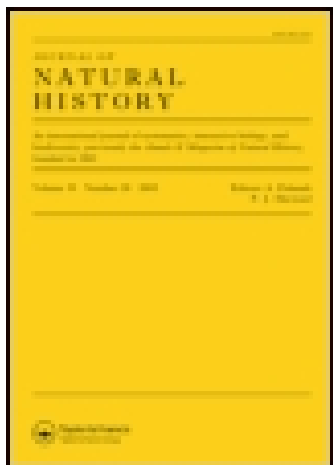


This article was downloaded by: [University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign]

On: 30 January 2015, At: 05:47

Publisher: Taylor & Francis

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number: 1072954 Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street, London W1T 3JH, UK



Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 4

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tnah10>

IV.—Description of a supposed new Suthora from the Dafla Hills, and a Minla from the Nágá Hills, with remarks on Pictorhis (Chrysomma) altirostre, Jerdon

Major H.H. Godwin-Austen F.R.G.S. F.Z.S.
a

^a Topographical Survey of India
Published online: 13 Oct 2009.

To cite this article: Major H.H. Godwin-Austen F.R.G.S. F.Z.S. (1876) IV.—Description of a supposed new Suthora from the Dafla Hills, and a Minla from the Nágá Hills, with remarks on Pictorhis (Chrysomma) altirostre, Jerdon , Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 4, 17:97, 32-34, DOI: [10.1080/00222937608681892](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222937608681892)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222937608681892>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications

on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden.

Terms & Conditions of access and use can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/page/terms-and-conditions>

EXPLANATION OF PLATE III.

[All objects that are magnified are to 80 diameters.]

- Fig. 1.* Distal half of pedicel and a calycle of a Campanularian allied to *C. caliculata* (Hincks).
Fig. 2. The same (to show natural size and habit), growing from part of the stem of a *Boltenia* (p. 25, note).
Fig. 3. *Obelia pygmæa*?, portion of stem and one branch (p. 25).
Fig. 4. *Halecium delicatulum*, older part of hydrophyton.
Fig. 5. The same, to show younger part of hydrophyton.
Fig. 6 a. *Sertularella robusta*, southern species, $\times 80$ diam. *b.* A specimen from east coast, to show difference in size of calycles, $\times 80$ diam. *c.* *S. simplex*, intermediate between *S. rugosa* and *S. tenella* (*vide* p. 27), $\times 80$ diam.
Fig. 7. *Sertularia* — ? , from the Bluff, New Zealand. 7'. Portion of pinnæ, magnified. 7". Part of stem, magnified.
Fig. 8. *Hydrallmania* (?) *bicalycula*, from the Bluff, New Zealand. 8'. Shows a branchlet, mode of origin of pinnæ, the relative distance of the calicular pairs on pinnæ and stem respectively, also the attachment of gonothecal pedicel. 8". A gonothecal capsule.
Fig. 9. Exhibits a profile view of a branchlet of *H. bicalycula*, showing the unilateral position of the hydrothecæ.

IV.—*Description of a supposed new Suthora from the Dafla Hills, and a Minla from the Nágá Hills, with Remarks on Pictorhis* (Chrysomma) *altirostre*, *Jerdon*. By Major H. H. GODWIN-AUSTEN, F.R.G.S., F.Z.S., &c., Deputy Superintendent, Topographical Survey of India.

I HAVE to publish another interesting bird from the Dafla hills, Assam, of the genus *Suthora*, closely allied to *S. muni-purensis*, Wald. & G.-Aust., described in the 'Ibis' for 1875, p. 250. The difference between them is most marked on the underside, the chin being grey in the Dafla bird, paling on the upper breast and belly to dull yellowish white; while in the Muni-púr and Nágá species the chin and throat are deep black, fading to grey on the breast, into the white of the lower tail-coverts. There is also a marked difference in size, this new form being the smallest of the genus now known.

Suthora daflaensis, n. sp.

Above—crown of head chrome-brown, back and rump rusty olivaceous brown; tail very rich rusty brown, particularly near the base; frontal band, passing over the eye to the nape, black; a white circle round eye, with a moustachial streak passing

down the side of the neck of the same colour; ear-coverts grey, surmounted by a small streak of golden yellow. Chin grey; breast and belly dull sordid white; under tail-coverts white; flanks grey. Shoulder of wing olivaceous; primaries black, rufous at the base, forming a band, the outermost edged white; their coverts black: secondaries grey, edged rich rufous on the outer web, with a narrow white edging to the inner. Irides dark brown; legs and feet pale grey; bill neutral grey.

Length 3.25 inches, wing 1.75, tail 2.10, tarsus 0.62, bill at front 0.25.

Hab. The bamboo underwood of the forests at 5000–7000 feet, Daffa hills, and first obtained on the slopes of Torúpútú Peak in January.

These curious little birds associate together in large flocks, making an incessant sharp twitter. They are most active, flitting rapidly about the foliage of the bamboos, of which the underwood is principally composed. They were the most fearless birds I ever met with, perching on twigs within a couple of yards of one's head, so close that it was some time before I could fire at one without the certainty of blowing it all to pieces, and two specimens obtained I had to throw away. The bright-coloured top of the head, set off with its black coronal edging, is conspicuous as they fly and hop about the branches.

Minla Mandellii, n. sp.

Above dark olivaceous, tail brown; forehead rufous, merging into the olivaceous brown of the top of the head; a white supercilium commences from above the eye, and extends to the neck, merging into some streaky buff and black feathers behind the ear-coverts; a black band surmounts the white one, but does not meet the black lores; ear-coverts sooty. Chin, throat, and upper breast buffy white; sullied white on abdomen; flanks olivaceous. Irides dark red-brown; legs and feet pale fleshy; bill grey-brown. Feathers of the head scaly.

Length 5.55 inches, wing 2.2, tail 2.5, tarsus 0.95, bill at front 0.45 (measured in the flesh).

Hab. Nágá hills, in forest, at about 6000 feet.

I have named this bird after Mr. L. Mandelli, who has so successfully worked the ornithology of the Sikkim hills, and who described in 'Stray Feathers,' July 1873, a very near ally of this species, viz. *Minla rufogularis* (= *collaris*, Walden), of which I obtained several specimens in the Daffa hills last winter.

Dr. Jerdon, in a paper on some birds from Upper Burmah, in the 'Ibis' for 1862, p. 19, describes, under the title *Chrysomma*, a bird he obtained at Thyatmyo, which I do not think has since been got there. Among the collection from the Daffa hills there are several skins of what can be no other than this species. Dr. Jerdon's description and the size agree very well. To Lord Walden is due the credit of identification. It is curious to say, Dr. Jerdon in the above paper twice (probably writing fast, and using the term "chur") writes "Bar-rampootra" instead of Irrawaddy, the above word being applied to the sandy islands of the former river; but there is just this possibility, that the specimen really came from Assam, where I found it quite common in the grassy country of the Bishnath plain up to the base of the Daffa hills. It is very close to *Pictorhis sinensis*, Gmelin, as mentioned by Dr. Jerdon in the 'Birds of India,' vol. ii. p. 16, and approximates in its higher and shorter bill to the *Paradoxornis* group. It is, however, not so gregarious, being only found two or three together. I found it a very hard bird to shoot, from its rapid dodgy flight in the grass, and the quick way in which it would hide at once; this is probably the cause of its not having been oftener noticed and collected. I have failed to discover where Dr. Jerdon's original type of this interesting bird can now be.

I take the earliest opportunity in this paper to suppress the species (*Garrulax albosuperciliaris*) figured in the 'Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal,' 1874, and described by me in the 'Proc. Zool. Soc.' for 1874. It is, I find, the same as *G. sannio*, Swinhoe. The only variation I noticed in the single specimen with which I have compared it was a slight difference in the shade of coloration of the upper surface; this is one often seen in birds taken on the extreme limits of their range.

V.—*Diagnoses of new Species of Asteriidae and Linkiidae in the British Museum.* By M. EDMOND PERRIER*.

Asterias Rodolphi.

Very like *A. glacialis*, L., from which it differs chiefly in the number of rays, which is seven, and the position of the ventral spines near the ambulacral spines, which form a triple and not a double series as in the European species.

Hab. Raoul Island, Kermadec Islands. Presented by the Lords of the Admiralty, and collected by J. Macgillivray during the voyage of H.M.S. 'Herald.'

* Translated by Mr. Edgar A. Smith, Zoological Department.