



MONARCHA PERIOPHTHALMICUS, Sharpe.

W. Hart del. et lith.

Walter imp.

MONARCHA PERIOPHTHALMICUS, *Sharpe*.

Black-Spectacled Flycatcher.

Monarcha periophthalmicus, Sharpe, Journ. Linn. Soc. (Zool.) vol. xvi. p. 318 (1882).

ALL the members of the genus *Monarcha* are birds of very elegant coloration ; and the present species is very delicately coloured. It belongs to the section of the genus with black wings and tail, to which *Monarcha canescens* and *M. frater* also appertain. It is, indeed, very closely allied to the last-named bird, the type of which is now in the Civic Museum of Genoa, but a full description of which will be found in the British-Museum 'Catalogue of Birds' by Mr. Sharpe, and also in Count Salvadori's 'Ornitologia della Papuasie.' In both these works the forehead and chin are spoken of as black, while the region round the eye is white. Although I have not been able to compare the type of *M. periophthalmicus* with that of *M. frater*, yet I have very little doubt as to its distinctness ; for it has the fore part of the crown black, as well as the forehead, while the entire region of the eye is also black.

The following is a copy of the full description contributed by Mr. Sharpe to the 'Journal of the Linnean Society' in a paper read by him on the 6th of April, 1882 :—

"General colour above pearly grey, a little darker on the upper tail-coverts, which have concealed black bases ; lesser and inner median and greater coverts pearly grey like the back ; bastard wing, primary-coverts, as well as the outer median and greater series and the quills, black, only the innermost secondaries externally pearly grey ; tail-feathers black ; forehead and sinciput, lores, fore part of cheeks, feathers below the eye and a broad ring round the eye black ; chin and upper throat black ; lower throat, fore neck, and chest, pearly grey, as also the sides of the neck ; remainder of under surface of body, as well as the thighs and under tail-coverts and the axillaries and under wing-coverts, cinnamon-buff ; quills blackish below. Total length 5·5 inches, culmen 0·75, wing 3·4, tail 2·75, tarsus 0·75."

The figure in the Plate is drawn from one of the typical specimens in the British Museum. It represents a male bird of the natural size.

[R. B. S.]



Gould, John and Sharpe, Richard Bowdler. 1883. "Monarcha periophthalmicus, Black-spectacled Flycatcher [Pl. 52]." *The birds of New Guinea and the adjacent Papuan islands : including many new species recently discovered in Australia* 2(XIV), –. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322707>.

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