MUSCIPETA PRINCEPS.

Ordo INSESSORES.

Tribus DENTIROSTRES.

Fam. MUSCICAPIDÆ.

Genus PHÆNICORNIS.

TAB. VII.

PHÆNICORNIS PRINCEPS.

Phæn. capite, collo, dorso summo, alis, reatricibusque duabus mediis nigris; corpore inferiori, dorso imo, fasciâ latâ alarum, maculis paucis remigum secundariarum, reatricibusque lateralibus aurantio-coccineis; rostro fortiori.

Longitudo corporis, 9 unc.; alæ, $4\frac{1}{4}$; caudæ, $4\frac{1}{4}$; rostri, 1; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.

It was not till after the publication of the Plates of this richly coloured bird and its allied species, that it was discovered that Mr. Swainson had separated the form to which they expressly belong, from the rest of the Fly-catchers, into a new genus under the name of *Phænicornis*, taking the *Muscicapa flammea* of former authors as its type. Of this genus, which has been well characterized and most justly separated by Mr. Swainson, the accompanying Plates represent three well-marked species, of which the present is the largest and most brilliant in its markings. Its characters are, however, the same as in the rest of its genus, except perhaps that its bill is somewhat more strongly developed.

With the exception of a single specimen in a private collection, that from which the figure was taken is the only one with which we are acquainted. Both these specimens were males; the female has not yet been seen.

To the history of this species nothing can be added; the specimens alluded to, however, were from the Himalayan range, to which it is suspected its *habitat* is confined.

The whole of the head, throat, shoulders, upper part of the back, scapulars, tips of the quill-feathers and secondaries, and the two middle tail-feathers, are of a deep glossy black; a large central spot in the wings, the edges of the secondaries, and the whole of the rest of the plumage are of a lively orange-scarlet.

The figure is of the natural size.

Gould, John. 1831. "Muscipeta princeps [Tab. VII]." *A century of birds from the Himalaya Mountains* –. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.323558>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/132967>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.323558>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/323558>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.