ZOOTHERA MONTICOLA.

Genus ZOOTHERA.

CHARACTERES GENERICI.

Rostrum forte, elongatum, subcurvatum, subcompressum, culmine elevato; *mandibulâ* superiori subemarginatâ, dente subapicali vix decernendâ; *naribus* ovalibus, lateralibus; *rictu* vibrissis rigidis munito.

Alæ subbreves, subrotundatæ; *remigibus* primâ brevi, secundâ multo longiore, tertiâ quartâ quintâque ferè æqualibus longissimis, sextâ his breviori at primâ longiori, cæteris gradatim decreescentibus.

Pedes subelongati, subfortes, *acrotarsiis* integris; *digitis* anterioribus subfortibus, externis ad basin membranâ connexis, internis liberis, medio longissimo; *halluce* elongato fortissimo, ungue forti elongato.

Cauda subbrevis, æqualis; *rectricibus* duodecim.

TAB. XXII.

ZOOTHERA MONTICOLA.

Zooth. saturatè brunnea; colli in fronte notâ longitudinali, pectoris notis parvis, abdomineque albis, hoc brunneo squamatim notato; femorum tectricibus, crissoque fuscis, hoc albo maculato.

Longitudo corporis, 11½ unc.; rostri, 1½; alæ a carpo ad apicem remigis 4tæ, 6; tarsi, 1½; caudæ, 4.

THIS very singular species, of which a solitary individual formed part of the collection, was at the time of the publication of the "Century" the only one known to science: since that period, however, a second specimen has been received from the Nepaul hills, and which now forms a portion of the Honourable East India Company's collection.

The general plumage of this bird over the whole of the upper surface is dark brown; the throat and fore-part of the neck is marked with a whitish longitudinal streak; the breast is brown, obscurely blotched with a darker tint, presenting also a few spots of white; the under parts are white, spotted irregularly with brown; the beak and tarsi dark horn brown.

The group to which this species belongs seems to have many characters in common with *Pomatorhinus*, Horsf., the chief mark of separation consisting in the strong and elevated bill. The alliance between these two groups may serve to indicate the affinities of the latter, whose place in the general system has been hitherto undetermined.

The bird is figured of the natural size.

Gould, John. 1831. "Zoothera monticola [Tab. XXII]." *A century of birds from the Himalaya Mountains* –. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.323567>.

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