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H. G. DEIGNAN

Associate Curator, Division of Birds
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A REVISION OF THE INDO-CHINESE FORMS OF THE AVIAN GENUS PRINIA

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One using the "Fauna of British India, Birds," 2d edition, can scarcely fail to be astonished by the unnatural classification employed in certain families in consequence of Stuart Baker's use in a generic, or even subfamilial, sense of characters which, in themselves, are, at most, of not more than subspecific importance. The pitfalls into which such false evaluation may lead are nowhere more evident than in his treatment of the Sylviidae, where, merely on a basis of whether the species have 10 or 12 rectrices, we find *Phyllergates* separated from *Orthotomus* by 21 genera, while *Prinia* is divided from *Franklinia* by 23 and from *Cisticola* by 24 genera. In the case of *Franklinia*, one can find not a single character of generic importance by which the putative genus may be upheld as distinct from *Prinia* and, once the principle is accepted that the number of tail feathers may be related to geographical variation within the species (as it is, indeed, generally accepted in the cases of certain African warbler species), one hesitates to accept even the specific distinctness of the Indian *Prinia socialis* from the Indo-Chinese *Franklinia rufescens*. As for the so-called genus *Suya*, which has not one character by which it may be distinguished from *Prinia*, it is hardly necessary to say more than that the form called *Suya crinigera cooki* is only with difficulty differentiated subspecifically from the Javanese bird accepted by all modern authors as *Prinia polychroa*. The seasonal change in tail length, assumed by Baker to have generic importance in *Prinia*, *Suya*, *Franklinia*, and *Laticilla*, is reduced to its proper insignificance by the realization that such variation gradually disappears, from north to south, even within the limits of the several species as conceived by Baker himself. In short, the genus *Prinia*, in this paper, is considered to be a poorly defined aggregation of grass warblers, nearly allied (through *Incana*) to those placed by Lynes in *Cisticola* and, in Asia, embracing all the forms distributed by Baker among *Prinia*, *Suya*, *Laticilla*, and *Franklinia*.

The present study has been inspired and facilitated by the valuable contributions to an understanding of the Indian *Prinia* made by Whistler and Kinnear¹ and by Ticehurst and Whistler.²

For the loan of long series of specimens to be added to those in the collection of the United States National Museum (U.S.N.M.) and without which the work would not have been possible, I am indebted to the authorities of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (A.N.S.), of the American Museum of Natural History (A.M.N.H.), of the Museum of Comparative Zoology (M.C.Z.) and of the Princeton Museum of Zoology (P.M.Z.).

I

The Indo-Chinese populations of *Prinia rufescens*, hitherto submerged in *Franklinia rufescens* (Blyth), prove, upon examination of series in comparable plumages, to fall into no fewer than five well-characterized races, localized in just those areas where subspecific differentiation normally appears in numerous other passerine species.

1. *PRINIA RUFESCENS RUFESCENS* Blyth

Pr[inia] rufescens BLYTH, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, vol. 16, p. 456, 1847 (Arakan).

Front, crown, and nape brownish slate (summer); rufous brown, tinged with slate (winter).

Mantle dark rufous brown (summer); bright rufous brown (winter).

Well-marked supraloral streak (often continued beyond the eye as a short supercilium) and the tiny feathers of both eyelids white (summer and winter).

Under parts white, washed with buff, most strongly along the flanks and on the thighs and under tail-coverts (summer); white, washed with rufous buff, most strongly along the flanks, over the greater part of the abdomen, and on the thighs and under tail-coverts (winter).

Tail short in summer, slightly longer in winter.

Range.—In Indo-China (excepting Burma): the northern half of Indochine; East Siam, south to the river Me Mu'n (U:bon Province); all North Siam; West Siam, south to lat. 14° N.

Walden has named *Prinia beavani* from two examples collected at Shwegun, Salwin River, Tenasserim (Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1866

¹ Journ. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc., vol. 36, pp. 564-566, 573-582, 1933.

² Ibis, 1939, pp. 761-763.

[=1867], p. 551); I find no points of difference between the birds of northern Tenasserim and those of other parts of southern Burma and unqualifiedly pronounce *beavani* synonymous with *rufescens*.

2. PRINIA RUFESCENS PENINSULARIS, new subspecies

Type.—Adult female, U.S.N.M. No. 160572, collected at Trang, Peninsular Siam, January 20, 1897, by W. L. Abbott.

Front, crown, and nape brownish slate (summer); brownish slate or slaty brown (winter).

Mantle dark rufous brown (summer and winter).

Well-marked supraloral streak (often continued beyond the eye as a short supercilium) and the tiny feathers of both eyelids white (summer and winter).

Under parts white, washed with buff, most strongly along the flanks and on the thighs and under tail-coverts (summer and winter).

Tail short (summer and winter).

Range.—Peninsular Siam, from the Isthmus of Kra: south to (but not including) Pattani Province.

3. PRINIA RUFESCENS EXTREMA, new subspecies

Type.—Adult male, U.S.N.M. No. 308245, collected at Bangna:ra, Peninsular Siam, July 13, 1926, by H. M. Smith.

Front, crown, and nape dark brownish slate (summer and winter).

Mantle dark rufescent olivaceous brown (summer and winter).

Well-marked supraloral streak white (summer and winter).

Tiny feathers of upper eyelid white, those of lower eyelid mixed white and slaty (summer and winter).

Under parts white, washed with pale buff, most strongly along the flanks and on the thighs and under tail-coverts (summer and winter).

Tail short (summer and winter).

Range.—Peninsular Siam (Pattani Province) and the Malay States, south to Negri Sembilan and Pahang.

4. PRINIA RUFESCENS OBJURGANS, new subspecies

Type.—Adult male, U.S.N.M. No. 334623, collected at Siracha, southeastern Siam, April 19, 1934, by H. M. Smith.

Front, crown, and nape brownish slate (summer and winter).

Mantle dark rufous brown (summer and winter).

Well-marked supraloral streak white (summer and winter).

Tiny feathers of upper eyelid mixed white and slaty, those of lower eyelid slaty (summer and winter).

Under parts white, washed with buffy cream, most strongly along the flanks and on the thighs and under tail-coverts (summer and winter).

Tail short (summer and winter).

Range.—Southeastern Siam.

5. *PRINIA RUFESCENS DALATENSIS* (Riley)

Franklinia rufescens dalatensis RILEY, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, vol. 53, p. 79, 1940 (Fimnon, South Annam).

Front, crown, and nape dark brownish slate (summer); dark rufous brown, tinged with slaty (winter).

Mantle dark rufous brown (summer and winter).

Indistinct supraloral streak slaty or mixed white and slaty (summer and winter).

Tiny feathers of both eyelids slaty (summer and winter).

Under parts white, washed with buffy rufous, most strongly along the flanks and on the thighs and under tail-coverts (summer and winter).

Tail short in summer, slightly longer in winter.

Range.—South Annam.

I am tempted to consider *Prinia rufescens* and its races merely the more eastern forms of the species named *Pr. socialis* by Sykes. Judging by the literature, however, there seems to be considerable overlapping of ranges in the eastern Himalayas and Assam and, assuming that such overlapping is real, rather than merely apparent, I keep them, at least for the present, distinct specific entities.

II

With the inclusion of the genus *Franklinia* Jerdon 1863 in *Prinia* Horsfield 1821, *Prinia gracilis* Franklin 1831 is preoccupied by *Sylvia* [= *Prinia*] *gracilis* Lichtenstein 1823 and Blyth's *Pr[inia] Hodgsonii* again comes into use for the bird of Central India, thus becoming untenable for the Himalayan race, which may be called *Prinia hodgsonii rufula* Godwin-Austen 1874.

Of *Prinia hodgsonii*, I find at least four forms in the Indo-Chinese countries.

1. *PRINIA HODGSONII HODGSONII* Blyth

Pr[inia] Hodgsonii BLYTH, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, vol. 13, p. 376, 1844.

New name for *Prinia gracilis* Franklin 1831 (Mirzapur District, by restriction, Ticehurst and Whistler, Ibis, 1939, p. 763), not *Sylvia gracilis* Lichtenstein 1823.

Upper parts nearest hair brown (Ridgway), this color almost pure on front, crown, and nape, faintly tinged rufescent on mantle, rump, and upper tail-coverts (summer); light olivaceous brown, suffused with rufescent, faintly on front, crown, and nape, more strongly on mantle, conspicuously on rump and upper tail-coverts (winter).

Supraloral streak ashy white (summer and winter).

The swollen edges of the eyelids orange and the tiny feathers of both eyelids white (summer); the edges of the eyelids neither swollen nor brightly colored, the tiny feathers of both eyelids white (winter).

Under parts white, with a broad pectoral band and flanks deep ashy gray, the throat and center of abdomen very faintly tinged with cream (summer); white (more or less sullied with ashy gray on breast and upper flanks), washed with cream, which posteriorly changes to light rufous cream (winter).

Tail short in summer, longer in winter.

Range.—In Indo-China: Burma, south of Manipur and west of the Irriwadi River.

2. PRINIA HODGSONII RUFULA Godwin-Austen

Prinia rufula GODWIN-AUSTEN, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1874, p. 47 (Naga Hills and Manipur).

Upper parts between hair brown (Ridgway) and chætura drab (Ridgway), this color almost pure on front, crown, and nape, faintly tinged rufescent on mantle, rump, and upper tail-coverts (summer); dark olivaceous brown, suffused with rufescent, faintly on front, crown, and nape, more strongly on mantle, conspicuously on rump and upper tail-coverts (winter).

Supraloral region concolorous with crown (summer); supraloral streak ashy white (winter).

The swollen edges of the eyelids orange and the tiny feathers of both eyelids slaty (summer); the edges of the eyelids neither swollen nor brightly colored, the tiny feathers of the upper eyelid mixed ashy gray and white, those of the lower eyelid white (winter).

Under parts white, with a broad pectoral band and flanks deep ashy gray, the throat and center of abdomen washed with cream (summer); white (more or less sullied with ashy gray on breast and upper flanks), washed with cream, which posteriorly changes to light rufous cream (winter).

Tail short in summer, longer in winter.

Range.—In Indo-China: Upper Burma, except for those districts inhabited by *hodgsonii*.

3. *PRINIA HODGSONII CONFUSA*, new subspecies

Type.—Adult male, M.C.Z. No. 129216, collected at Mengtze, SE. Yunnan, December 5, 1920, by J. D. La Touche.

Upper parts chætura drab (Ridgway), this color almost pure on front, crown, and nape, faintly tinged rufescent on mantle, rump, and upper tail-coverts (summer); dark olivaceous brown, suffused with bright rufous, faintly on front, crown, and nape, strongly on the mantle, very conspicuously on the rump and upper tail-coverts (winter).

Supraloral region concolorous with crown (summer); supraloral streak ashy white (winter).

The swollen edges of the eyelids orange and the tiny feathers of both eyelids slaty (summer); edges of eyelids neither swollen nor brightly colored, the tiny feathers of the upper eyelid mixed ashy gray and white, those of the lower eyelid ashy white (winter).

Under parts white, with a broad pectoral band and flanks deep ashy gray, the throat and center of abdomen faintly washed with cream (summer); white (very slightly sullied with ashy gray on breast and upper flanks), washed with creamy rufous, faintly on throat and breast but strongly posteriorly (winter).

Tail short in summer, longer in winter.

Range.—Yunnan, Tongking, and adjacent parts of Laos.

In *confusa*, the northeasternmost form of *Prinia hodgsonii*, we find the greatest differentiation between summer and winter plumages and, in the latter, the strongest resemblance to the corresponding dress of a race of *Prinia rufescens* inhabiting the same area. It is evidently this approximation which puzzled Whistler and Kinnear³ and which, at one time, misled Delacour into believing *hodgsonii* and *rufescens* mere color phases of a single species. Despite their similarity, however, *confusa* may readily be known from *rufescens* by a character which serves equally well to separate all other cohabitant forms of the two species: in the former, the under side of the rectrices is brownish ashy, with black subterminal spot and ashy white tip; in the latter, the under side of the rectrices is ashy brown, with black subterminal spot and rufous gray tip.

4. *PRINIA HODGSONII ERRO*, new subspecies

Type.—Adult female, U.S.N.M. No. 350283, collected at Chieng-mai, 1,000 feet, North Siam, January 24, 1936, by H. G. Deignan.

³ Journ. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc., vol. 36, p. 565, 1933.

Upper parts chaetura black (Ridgway), this color almost pure on front, crown, and nape, faintly tinged rufescent on mantle, rump, and upper tail-coverts (summer); front, crown, and nape slaty brown or brownish slate, changing gradually to dark olivaceous brown, suffused with rufescent on the lower back, rump, and upper tail-coverts (winter).

Supraloral region concolorous with crown (summer); supraloral streak dark ashy, very rarely ashy white (winter).

The swollen edges of the eyelids orange and the tiny feathers of both eyelids slaty (summer); the edges of the eyelids neither swollen nor brightly colored, the tiny feathers of the upper eyelid ashy gray, those of the lower eyelid ashy gray or mixed ashy gray and white (winter).

Under parts white, with a broad pectoral band and flanks deep ashy gray, the throat and center of abdomen faintly tinged with cream (summer); white (more or less sullied with ashy gray on breast and upper flanks), washed with cream, which posteriorly changes to rufous cream (winter).

Tail short (summer and winter, but occasionally longer in winter).

Range.—Kengtung State, North Siam, and Middle Laos.

Prinia hodgsonii occurs also in East and Southeast Siam and in South Annam but the material from those areas available to me is too scant to warrant expression of opinion as to subspecies.

In summer dress, all the races of *Pr. hodgsonii* are very distinct from those of *Pr. rufescens* but variation within the species appears only in the most subtle characters; in winter dress, they are easily distinguishable from each other but then show a strong, though superficial, resemblance to those of the other species.

III

Prinia inornata (with which I consider the African *Drymoica superciliosa* Swainson and its races conspecific) is represented in the Indo-Chinese countries (excluding Burma) by three forms.

1. PRINIA INORNATA BLANFORDI (Walden)

Drymæca blanfordi WALDEN, in Blyth, Cat. Mamm. Birds Burma, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, vol. 43, pt. 2, extra No., p. 118, 1875 (Toungoo, Burma).

Range.—In Indo-China (excepting Burma): North Siam (Chiengmai Province).

This species has been taken in northern Siam only at Chiengmai, Mu'ang Fang, and Nan. Fine-plumaged January birds from Chieng-

mai may quite safely be called *blanfordi*; a couple of worn summer specimens from Mu'ang Fang are subspecifically indeterminable; the sole example yet known from Nan is discussed below.

2. *PRINIA INORNATA EXTENSICAUDA* (Swinhoe)

Drymoica extensicauda SWINHOE, Ibis, 1860, pp. 50-51 (Amoy).

Range.—In Indo-China: Tongking, North Annam, High Laos.

The single worn and discolored specimen from Nan, placed by Riley⁴ with "*exter*" because it "matches . . . perfectly" summer birds from western Szechuan, in fact agrees equally well with similar examples from Amoy (*extensicauda*) and from Mu'ang Fang (presumably *blanfordi*). There is a possibility that the birds of Nan (and perhaps of Mu'ang Fang as well) are indeed *extensicauda* (from which, in my opinion, *exter* is inseparable); until, however, specimens in good winter dress are known from those areas, we have not the least evidence that they differ from the population of Chiengmai, which is certainly *blanfordi*.

3. *PRINIA INORNATA HERBERTI* Stuart Baker

Prinia inornata herberti STUART BAKER, Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, vol. 38, p. 39, 1918 (Bangkok, Siam).

Range.—East Siam and all Indochine, south of the territory occupied by *Pr. i. extensicauda*.

Riley⁵ says: "In my opinion [*herberti*] is not a form of *inornata* at all, but of *Prinia blythi* of Java, which should not be in the same form group." He goes on to list differences between *blythi* and *inornata*, not one of which, from my point of view, is of more than subspecific value. Actually, the relationship of *blythi* and *herberti* to other members of the *inornata* group is much like that of *polychroa* and *cooki* to other members of the *polychroa* group (*vide infra*).

IV

Prinia flaviventris, in one form or another, is now known to occur, however rarely, at suitable localities in all parts of Siam and Indochine. The greater part of the subregion is inhabited by a bird which has always been called *Prinia fl. flaviventris*, but which, while agreeing perfectly with that race in color, differs from it in its rather heavier bill and its acquisition in winter of a tail only slightly longer than that

⁴ U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 172, p. 443, 1938.

⁵ Idem, pp. 442-443.

of summer, thus approaching the very strong-billed *Pr. fl. rafflesi*, which shows no seasonal variation at all in length of tail. I propose to name this form

PRINIA FLAVIVENTRIS DELACOURI, new subspecies

Type.—Adult male, P.M.Z. No. 10301, collected at Chiengmai, 1,000 feet, North Siam, January 30, 1932, by H. G. Deignan.

The races now known from the Indo-Chinese countries, exclusive of Burma, are:

1. PRINIA FLAVIVENTRIS SONITANS Swinhoe

Prinia sonitans SWINHÖE, Ibis, 1860, p. 50 (Amoy).

Range.—In Indo-China: NE. Tongking.

2. PRINIA FLAVIVENTRIS DELACOURI Deignan

Range.—Pegu, Siam, and all Indochine, except those areas inhabited by *sonitans* and *rafflesi*.

3. PRINIA FLAVIVENTRIS RAFFLESI Tweeddale

Prinia rafflesi TWEEDDALE, Ibis, 1877, p. 311, pl. 6, fig. 1 (Lampongs, South Sumatra).

Range.—In Indo-China: Peninsular Siam, south of the Isthmus of Kra.

V

Since, as mentioned in my introduction, the southernmost race of *Suya crinigera auctorum* (type of the genus *Suya*) is clearly only subspecifically distinct from *Malurus polychrous* Temminck 1828 (Java), *polychroa* must take precedence over *crinigera* 1836 as the oldest name for the species.

The recognizable races of *Prinia polychroa* are seven or eight, depending on whether *Suya parumstriata* David and Oustalet (Fukhien) is distinct from the Formosan *Prinia striata* Swinhoe, which I have not seen.

1. PRINIA POLYCHROA STRIATULA (Hume)

Blanfordius striatula HUME, Stray Feathers, vol. 1, p. 195, 1872 [*nomen nudum*]; *ibid.*, vol. 2, p. 300, 1873 (Karachi).

2. PRINIA POLYCHROA CRINIGERA (Hodgson)

Suya crinigera HODGSON, Asiat. Res., vol. 19, p. 183, 1836 (Nepal).

3. *PRINIA POLYCHROA ASSAMICA* (Stuart Baker)

Suya crinigera assamica STUART BAKER, Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, vol. 44, p. 20, April 26, 1924 (Shillong, Assam).

Suya crinigera assamica STUART BAKER, Fauna Brit. India, Birds, 2d ed., vol. 2, p. 520, May 7, 1924 (no locality given).

4. *PRINIA POLYCHROA CATHARIA* Reichenow

Prinia catharia REICHENOW, Ornith. Monatsber., vol. 16, p. 13, 1908 ("Ta-tsieng-lu-ting in Szechuan").

Range.—Szechuan and NW. Yunnan.

Feathers of front, crown, nape, and mantle blackish brown, suffused with chestnut and margined brownish ashy to give a boldly streaked appearance (summer); equally boldly streaked, but the feathers overlaid with a rich dark rufous wash which masks the light margins and gives the bird a generally darker appearance (winter).

Two examples from Kiangyin, Kiangsu Province, agree perfectly with a series of *catharia* and not at all with a series of *parumstriata*. If these birds are not abnormal, it would seem that *catharia* follows the Yangtze from Szechuan to its mouth.

5. *PRINIA POLYCHROA PARUMSTRIATA* (David and Oustalet)

Suya parumstriata DAVID and OUSTALET, Oiseaux de la Chine, p. 259, 1877 (Fukhien).

Range.—East Yunnan, Kwangsi, Kwangtung, and Fukhien.

Olivaceous brown above, lightly washed with rufescent or ochraceous, the feathers of front, crown, nape, and mantle with faintly darker centers which scarcely appear as broad streaks (summer); much like *catharia* in winter but without the strong dark rufous wash and with the dark centers of the feathers much less clearly defined, especially on nape and mantle (winter).

Two specimens from Hunan Province are intermediate between *catharia* and *parumstriata*, having the obsolescent streaking of the latter race combined with the rufous suffusion of the former.

Parumstriata possesses considerable interest in that the summer dress shows its close relationship to the following more southern races, while the winter dress shows its equally close affinity with the preceding forms.

6. *PRINIA POLYCHROA STRIATA* Swinhoe

Prinia striata SWINHOE, Journ. North-China Branch Roy. Asiat. Soc., vol. 1, p. 227, 1859 (Hongshan, NW. Formosa).

7. *PRINIA POLYCHROA COOKI* (Harington)

Suya crinigera cooki HARINGTON, Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, vol. 31, p. 109, 1913 (Thayetmyo, Burma).

Upper parts dark olivaceous brown, almost free of rufescent or ochraceous wash, the feathers with faintly darker centers which scarcely appear as broad streaks (summer); similar, but with a faint rufescent wash and the obsolescent darker centers of the feathers a little more distinct, although less so than in the corresponding dress of *parumstriata* (winter).

It is remarkable that this species is known from the Indo-Chinese countries (exclusive of Burma) only in East Siam, Low Laos, Cambodia, and South Annam. It is still more remarkable that the isolated population inhabiting those districts should be identical with that of Thayetmyo but I have been unable to examine topotypical material of *cooki* and Dr. Delacour assures me that the two populations are indeed inseparable.

8. *PRINIA POLYCHROA POLYCHROA* (Temminck)

Malurus polychrous TEMMINCK, Nouv. Rec. Pl. Col. Ois., vol. 3, [livr. 78], pl. 466, fig. 3, 1828 (Java).

Polychroa closely resembles *cooki* of Annam at any season but differs in having the upper parts with an ashy, rather than a rufescent, wash. Worn specimens of the two races tend to approximate each other but the distinction here given is readily seen in fresh-plumaged examples.

The relationship between *Prinia polychroa* and *Pr. sylvatica* of India and Ceylon should be investigated by someone with better material than is available to me.

VI

Chasen⁶ has already, in my opinion correctly, made the Malaysian races of "*Suya*" *superciliaris* Anderson 1871 conspecific with "*Suya*" *atrogularis* Moore 1854, with the result that *atrogularis* becomes the proper name for the species. With the union of the genera *Suya* and *Prinia*, however, the Chinese subspecies becomes *Prinia atrogularis superciliaris* Anderson 1871 and the Bornean bird hitherto called *Prinia flaviventris superciliaris* Salvadori⁷ is left without a valid name; for it I propose

⁶ Handlist Malaysian Birds, p. 254, 1935.

⁷ Ann. Mus. Civ. St. Nat. [Genova], ser. I, vol. 5, p. 249, 1874.

PRINIA FLAVIVENTRIS CHASENI, new name

Three well-defined forms of *Prinia atrogularis* occur within Indo-Chinese limits.

1. PRINIA ATROGULARIS SUPERCILIARIS (Anderson)

Saya [sic] *superciliaris* ANDERSON, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1871, pp. 212-213 (Momien [= Tengyueh], Yunnan).

Range.—Northern Burma, Yunnan, Kwangtung, Fukhien, Tongking.

2. PRINIA ATROGULARIS ERYTHROPLEURA (Walden)

Suya erythropleura WALDEN, in Blyth, Cat. Mamm. Birds Burma, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, vol. 43, pt. 2, extra No., p. 116, 1875 (Toungoo, Burma).

A series of five summer and eight winter birds from northern Siam and the adjacent parts of Laos differ from *superciliaris* in having the upper parts, throughout the year, more olivaceous brown, much less rufescent brown; the under parts, in winter, with less rufescence and that of a paler hue; the tail shorter than that of *superciliaris* at the same season and showing less seasonal variation in length than appears in the more northern race.

No toptype of *erythropleura* has been seen and the name is here applied to the Siamese population on the assumption that all birds of the same latitudes are likely, in this species, to be the same. If *erythropleura* be synonymous with *superciliaris*, the series before me is without an available name.

3. PRINIA ATROGULARIS KLOSSI (Hachisuka)

Suya superciliaris klossi HACHISUKA, Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, vol. 47, p. 53, 1926 (Dalat, South Annam).

Range.—Cochinchine, South Annam, Low Laos (Bolovens plateau).

In the Malaysian subregion appear also the two following forms:

1. PRINIA ATROGULARIS WATERSTRADTI (Hartert)

Suya waterstradti HARTERT, Nov. Zool., vol. 9, p. 568, 1902 (Gunong Tahan, Malay Peninsula).

2. PRINIA ATROGULARIS ALBOGULARIS (Hume)

Suya albugularis HUME, Stray Feathers, vol. 1, p. 459, 1873 (Acheen, Sumatra).

The type of *Burnesia dysancrita* Oberholser, which lies before me, shows that this name is a complete synonym of Hume's *albugularis*.