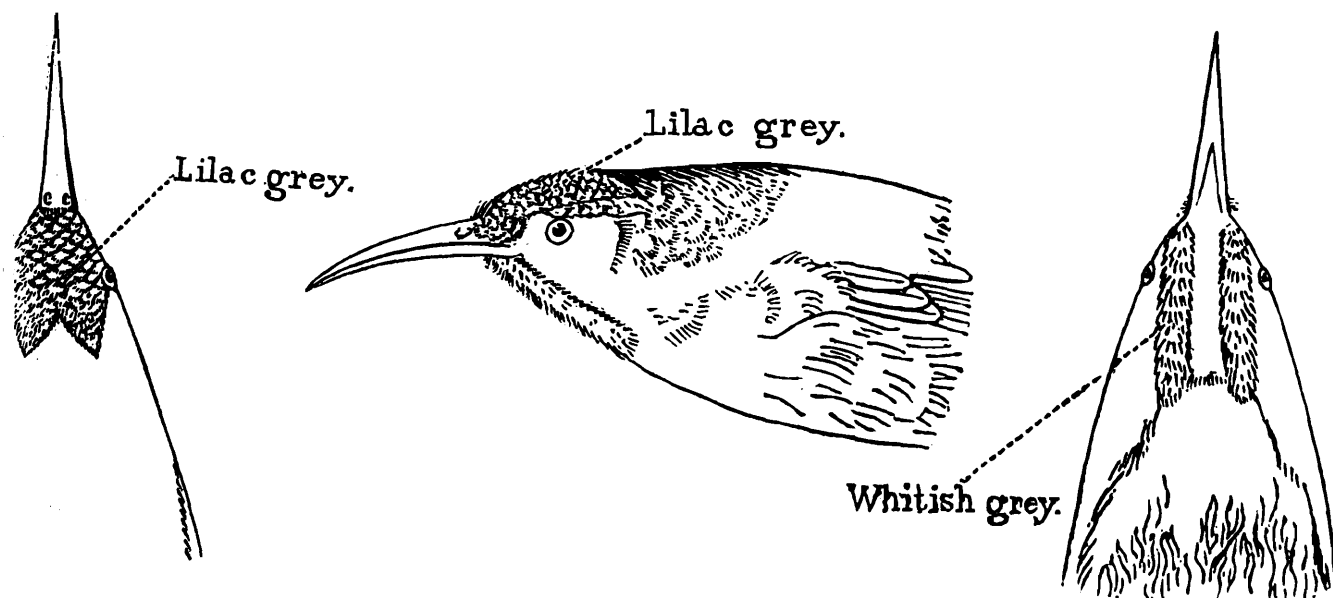


XIX.—A NEW SPECIES OF SUN-BIRD
(*ÆTHOPYGA*) OBTAINED NEAR
DARJILING, BRITISH
SIKHIM.

By T. BENTHAM, *Indian Museum.*

This specimen was shot by myself, together with two examples of *Æthopyga nepalensis* (the Nepal Yellow-backed Sun-Bird), in the forest at Ghoom, near Darjiling. It differs in several strongly-marked points from *Æ. nepalensis*. A coloured drawing of the specimen was submitted to Capt. Walton some time ago, and that gentleman, who is well known as an authority on the birds of Sikhim, said that in his belief the bird was probably a new species. I propose, therefore, to call it *Æthopyga griseiceps*, Benth. (the



Grey-headed Sun-Bird), the grey head being the chief point in which it differs from other Indian Sun-Birds. The symmetry and regularity of the pale markings on the head and throat render it improbable that these markings are due to immaturity.

Description—

Forehead and crown dull lilac-grey, each feather with a dull buff centre spot; nape, hind neck, chin and throat, metallic green; sides of head dull black; a broad whitish grey moustachial streak on each side of the throat extending from the base of the bill to the yellow of the breast and dividing the green of the throat from the black of the side of the head. The rest of the plumage as in *Æ. nepalensis*.

Length 5·5"; tail 2·5"; wing 2·1"; tarsus ·55"; bill from gape ·9"