

Astur torquatus Finsch, *Notes Leyden Mus.* xxii. p. 239.

Astur torquatus Temm., *Pl. Col.* 43 (1821 : I accept Timor as the typical loc. See *Nov. Zool.* 1903, p. 20).

Wetter : ♂ ♀ adult, 3 ♂, 2 ♀ juv., September, October 1902. ♂ ♀ ad. : " Iris sulphureous (chromeous), feet ochreous yellow (ochreous), bill black with ashy base, cere yellow." (Nos. 5430, 5431, 5658, 5659, 5660, 5661, 5773.)

Letti : 6 ♂, 3 ♀ ad., 3 ♀, 2 ♂ juv., November—December 1902. (Nos. 5962, 6049, 6069, 6071, 6072, 6074, 6482, 6483, 6484, 6485.)

Moa : 4 ♀, 2 ♂ ad., 2 juv., November, December 1902. (Nos. 6152, 6260, 6340, 6366, 6367, 6388, 6397.) Juv. : " Iris dark brown (brown, sulphureous), feet wax-yellow, bill black with ashy base."

I cannot do otherwise than unite these birds under the name of *A. t. wallacii*. They agree perfectly with the series of that form from other countries, as opposed to the typical *A. t. torquatus* from the Timor group. It is very peculiar that the latter is also found on Alor (*Nov. Zool.* 1903, p. 20), but the specimens from there agree with *A. t. torquatus* and not with *A. t. wallacii*. The two adult Wetter birds are less reddish, somewhat more pointing to *A. t. torquatus*, but not quite typical. In my article quoted above I have stated how the various forms of *A. t. torquatus* differ, and I do not desire to follow the convenient course of uniting them. In no case, however, is *A. t. sumbaensis* more distinct than *wallacii*.

54. *Tinnunculus moluccensis occidentalis* Mey. & Wigl.

[*Tinnunculus moluccensis* Bonaparte, *Consp. Av.* i. (1850) p. 27 (ex Hombron & Jacqu. : Amboina).]
Tinnunculus moluccensis occidentalis Meyer & Wiglesw., *Abh. and Ber. Mus. Dresden*, 1896-7, No. 2, p. 8 (Celebes—typ. loc.—Timor, Sumba, Flores).

Kisser, common, April—June 1901. (Nos. 3850, 3881, 3954, 3955, 4041.)
Wetter, 1 ♀, 17. x. 1902 (No. 5851). Letti, 4 " ♂ ♂ " November—December 1902. (Nos. 6036, 6037, 6076, 6486.) Moa, November—December 1902. (Nos. 6152, 6236, 6237, 6341, 6394, 6395, 6553.)

T. m. occidentalis is very distinct from *T. m. moluccensis*. All the above birds are very light.

55. *Falco peregrinus melanogenys* Gould.

Falco melanogenys Gould, *P. Z. S.* 1837, p. 139 (Australia).

1 ♀ juv., Wetter, 5. iv. 1901. " Iris black, feet sulphureous, bill grey with black tip and pale yellow nostrils."

There can be no doubt that *melanogenys* is the Australian form of *F. peregrinus*, and it is only consistent to name it trinomially.

STRIGES.

56. *Pisorhina manadensis tempestatis* subsp. nov.

The Scops-Owl from the island of Wetter forms a distinct race by itself. It differs at a glance from *P. m. albiventris* by the greater uniformity of the underside in the greyish-brown phase, the abdomen not differing from the breast, while in *P. m. albiventris* the abdomen is more or less white, contrasting with the rufous breast, and by the finer markings on the upperside, where the black markings in the middle of the feathers are not so bold. It thus resembles *P. m. manadensis* much more, and in fact differs (in the greyish-brown phase) from the latter almost

only in the finer, less bold black markings on the upper surface. But there is another peculiarity: while in the other forms (*P. m. manadensis* and *P. m. albiventris*) fox-red specimens are very rare (of *P. m. manadensis* only on record two in the Leyden Museum and a few in Dresden) or unknown (I find no record of a fox-red *P. m. albiventris*), they are evidently as numerous as the brown ones on Wetter. Of four specimens from Wetter in Leyden two belong to it, and of nine sent by Kühn four are fox-red. These four red specimens from Wetter are as different as two species can be from the brown ones, being bright fox-red above with narrow black shaft-lines and spots, the breast pale cinnamon, with heavy brown-black spots in the middle of the feathers, the abdomen beautifully mottled with white, cinnamon and blackish. How these fox-red examples differ from those of *S. m. manadensis* I cannot say, but according to Dr. Finsch they are not essentially different. Mr. Kühn sent four brown males, one brown female, two fox-red males, and two fox-red females, according to his sexing. They were obtained in September and October 1902. "Iris sulphureous, feet dirty grey or pale greyish flesh-colour, bill black, blackish or dark horn-colour, lower mandible pale (or dirty) horn-colour." (Nos. 5778—5784, 5786, 5781a.)

Type: No. 5782, Wetter, 15. x. 1902. H. Kühn coll.

Dr. Finsch unites (*Notes Leyden Mus.* xx. pp. 173—177) *P. m. manadensis* and *P. m. albiventris*, but if a series is compared the differences are conspicuous enough. In *Notes Leyden Mus.* xx. p. 177 he seems to cast doubts on my *P. alfredi* from Flores, which, however, must be kept specifically separate, because *P. m. albiventris* occurs also on Flores—though *alfredi* may be the mountain form. *P. alfredi* (as shown in my description and figure, *Nov. Zool.* 1898. pl. I.) differs from the various forms of *P. manadensis* by its almost uniform foxy-cinnamon upperside with large white marks on the scapulars, very fine mottlings on the abdomen, a smaller and yellow bill (while in the red as well as in the brown *P. manadensis* and *P. tempestatis* the upper bill is blackish, the lower whitish or horn-colour), and the bareness of the lower part of the tarsus, this last character not being shown in the plate but stated in the description.

57. *Ninox ocellata* subsp.?

The *Ninox* of the islands of Moa, Letti and Roma are very difficult to understand. They are closely allied and, in fact (with the sole exception of a little brighter rufous markings underneath), indistinguishable from the *Ninox* of Savu, near Timor, which I have called *N. ocellata* (cf. *Nov. Zool.* 1897, pp. 263, 264, 269). They are, however, all exactly alike in coloration and markings, and differ only slightly in dimensions. They are above cinnamon-brown, the hind-neck distinctly spotted with buff, scapulars and wing-coverts with the usual markings of *Ninox boobook* and *ocellata*. The underside is white with rufous, or rather cinnamon-brown markings. The wings measure 208 to 225, mostly about 215 mm. The iris is described by Mr. Kühn as "whitish yellow (whitish pale brown, yellowish with brown tinge, yellowish brown, dull brown)," the feet as "ash-grey," the bill as black with grey base (bright grey with black sides)." Generally they are smaller than *ocellata* from Queensland; but these forms are very difficult, and there seems to be a gradual merging from the birds called "*boobook*" into those called "*ocellata*," and of both there seem to be some more local races in *Australia*—for example, a very reddish one in West Australia.