

calling just before sunset, and I was fortunately close to the spot. It presently flew from the tree and settled in the open, where it was an easy shot.

I was not fortunate in securing further specimens during this expedition, although I was several times within a few yards of the birds. During daytime these Owls roost in the thick fern and grass-tangles near the ground, where it is quite impossible to see them. We heard this Owl again the following year once or twice on the summit of Monte Data, and obtained another specimen.

Iris bright yellow; bill blackish; feet pinkish brown.

29. *SCOPS MINDORENSIS*, sp. nov.

*Scops* sp. Grant, *Ibis*, 1896, p. 462.

During a lengthened expedition to the highlands of Mindoro—which was, most unfortunately, in the wet season—one of my hunters shot a small *Scops* Owl. The bird was much destroyed, having been fired at within five yards, and one side of the breast was blown away.

In 'The *Ibis*,' October 1896, p. 462, Mr. Grant gave several reasons for the Mindoro *Scops* being specifically distinct from *S. longicornis* of Luzon, but declined to describe it. The Mindoro specimen is an adult female: the ovary contained well-developed eggs. The white in the Luzon birds is replaced by pale buff; the bristles at the sides of the mandible are much shorter, also the ear-tufts. The size is much smaller than that of the Luzon males, instead of considerably larger, as is the rule in females of this genus.

*Scops longicornis*, ♂. Total length 8·0 inches, wing 5·6, tail 2·9, tarsus 1·15.

*Scops mindorensis*, ♀. Total length 7·2 inches, wing 5·3, tail 2·5, tarsus 1·15.

In *Scops whiteheadi* the female is much larger than the male:—

♂. Total length 9·5 to 10 inches, wing 7·3 to 7·4, tail 3·6 to 3·7, tarsus 1·65.

♀. Total length 11 to 11·4 inches, wing 7·7 to 8, tail 3·9 to 4, tarsus 1·65 to 1·9.

Thus I think there can be little doubt that the Mindoro Scops is not the female of *S. longicornis*, but is a new species, for which I propose the name of *Scops mindorensis*.

30. *NINOX JAPONICA* (Temm. & Schl.). (Grant, Ibis, 1896, pp. 111, 463.)

Met with in Mindoro on 24th October, and in Fuga Island on 15th April. This species is a winter migrant to the Philippines.

Iris king's yellow; bill greenish brown; cere dull olive-green; feet dull yellow.

31. *NINOX PHILIPPENSIS* Bonap. (Grant, Ibis, 1895, p. 441; 1896, p. 110.)

These peculiar little Owls are more often met with during the day than Scops Owls, from their habit of being much more easily flushed. A Scops Owl does not move until nearly touched, but *Ninox* nearly always leaves its roost if approached within a few yards. *Ninox* also frequents much more open country at night, often coming close to the villages, where it makes a considerable noise during the whole night if it be clear moonlight, one of my "boys" having shot as many as three one evening close to our house.

Iris straw-yellow; cere dull yellowish green; legs pale yellow, with a slight greenish tinge.

32. *NINOX MINDORENSIS*. (Grant, Ibis, 1896, p. 463.)

Obtained in the lowlands about the base of Monte Dulungan in Mindoro; and but for the incessant rains I might have obtained more specimens. It seems strange that Mindoro should possess two Hawk-Owls peculiar to the Philippines, *N. spilonotus* having been described from Cebu, and also met with in Mindoro by Messrs. Bourns and Worcester. One of the natives of Mindoro called this bird the "Bucali," and told me that it always accompanied wild pigs.

33. *STRIX CANDIDA* Tickell.

Fairly common in Luzon, and often obtained in the vicinity of Manila, from which locality I purchased a