

DESCRIPTION OF TWO PROBABLY NEW EUROPEAN BIRDS.

by Dr. JULIUS VON MADARÁSZ,

1. *Scops cypria* n. sp.

Though LORD LILFORD has already called attention in the «Tbis» 1889 p. 312, to the fact, that all the specimens of the *Scops Owl* obtained by him and Dr. F. H. H. GUILLEMARD in Cyprus were very dark in plumage, still I was much surprised by the *Cyprean Scops Owl*, which our Collector Mr. C. GLASZNER lately sent me from Cyprus.

By no means could I identify this bird with the *Scops scops* of LINNÆUS. Though I compared the *Cyprean Scops Owl* with specimens of the *common Scops Owl* from different localities (Tunis, South of France, Hungary, Dobrudsha, South of Russia etc.) and found that all the specimens from those localities are more or less light in colour, washed with orange or sandy buff, and varying not much in shade; whilst the *Cyprean Scops Owl* is a very dark coloured bird, without any decided shade of buff.

The *Cyprean Scops Owl* — as I propose to call *Scops cypria* — I consider to make a distinct insular form; it is not only characterised by its dark coloration, but it is somewhat a larger bird and has a distinct habitat, being resident in Cyprus; probably one of the peculiar insular forms, which inhabits the Island; whilst the *common Scops Owl* is only a summer visitor in the south of Europe and goes very far South in winter.

My type specimen, which belongs now to the Hungarian National Museum was shot on the 8th of February 1901 in Cyprus (Livadia) and according to the note of the collector it is a male and measures as follows: Length circ. 21, wing 16·5, tail 7·5, tarsus 2·2 cm.

2. *Parus aphrodite* n. sp.

Adult male closely allied to *Parus minor*, TEMM., of Eastern-Asia, but the under part is more creamy and the upper breast is suffused with yellow. Length 13·5, wing 6·9, tail 6·2, culmen 1, tarsus 1·9 cm. *Adult female*. Similar to the male, but has the underparts more yellowish. Length 13·2, wing 6·7, tail 6, culmen 1, tarsus 1·8 cm.

Both male and female were shot near Larnaca on 18th February and 3th March 1901.

A full description of these new birds with coloured plate will follow in the next Volume.