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UNDER THE COMMAND OF

CHARLES WILKES, U.S. N.

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BY

TITIAN R. PEALE.

ONE OF THE NATURALISTS OF THE EXPEDITION.

MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, OF THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA, ETC. ETC.

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STRIX LULU.—(Nob.)

PLATE XXI.

Lulu of the Samoans.

Collection Exp. Exp.

S. antecedenti similis, at minor, colore pallidior, necnon et alis brevioribus: summo capite, collo, dorso, alis caudâque supernâ grisescentibus, brunnescenti-variegatis, nonnihil fulvo continctis: plumis caudæ singulis apice guttâ nigrâ notatis, medio albis: caudâ ex duodecim conflatâ plumis, singulas fasciis quatuor ornantibus, ex fasciis autem tribus tantùm subtùs conspiciendis: alis similiter fasciatis: gutture, pectore, abdomine, femoribus partibusque omnibus subjacentibus, alis caudâque inclusis, albis: guttulis paucis nigris super tegmina alarum inferiora, pectus lateraque conspersis: femorum tarsorumque plumis candidis, haud densis: iride saturatè brunneâ: rostro tibiisque pallidè carneis, hisce squamis brunneis contectis.

Like the foregoing, but smaller; lighter coloured, and having shorter wings. Top of the head, neck, back, upper surface of the wings and tail, light gray, mottled with pale brown, and having a slight tinge of tawny; the tip of each feather of the dorsal plumage having a black spot with a white centre; tail consisting of twelve feathers, each with four brown bars, three only of which show on the under surface; wings barred like the tail; throat, breast, belly, thighs, and all the under parts, including the wings and tail, white; a few small black spots scattered over the under wing coverts, breast, and flanks; plumage of the thighs and tarsi pure white, and not so full, nor descending as low as it does on the American species; irides dark brown; bill and legs pale flesh-colour; the latter covered with brown scales.

Total length, $12\frac{3}{4}$ inches; extent of wings, $34\frac{1}{4}$ inches; wings, from the carpal joint, $11\frac{4}{10}$ inches; tail, $4\frac{3}{10}$ inches; tarsi, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches; mid-

dle toe, including the nail, $1\frac{1}{2}\frac{9}{6}$ inches; nail, $\frac{7}{6}$ inch; hind toe, including the nail, $1\frac{4}{6}$ inches; nail, $\frac{7}{6}$ inch. Female.

This species is quite common at the island of Upolu, and other islands of the Samoan Group. It is frequently abroad during the day, and flies with ease and almost perfect silence; we obtained numerous specimens, which vary but little: some are light-gray above, and snow-white beneath, while others are pale tawny above, but having also white breasts.

A single specimen was obtained at the island of Ovolau, one of the Feejee Group.

OTUS BRACHYOTUS.—(L.)

Strix brachyotus. Wilson, Am. Orn., vol. iv. p. 64.

Otus brachyotus. Audubon, Birds of America, vol. i. p. 140.

This bird is not uncommon on the prairies of Oregon and California. We found them on each of the Hawaiian islands, and the specimens from there, when compared with those of Europe and America, could not be distinguished, unless, as it appeared to us, in being smaller; but in habits they are alike. They frequent grassy or reedy plains, or marshes where there are but few trees.

NOCTUA VENATICA.—(Non.)

PLATE XXII. Fig. 1.

Collection Exp. Exp.

N. supernè umbrina: frontis e parte quæ oculis interjacet albá: genis brunneis: cervicis plumis bimaculatis, maculis pallidè ochraceis; dorsi, quadrimaculatis, notis hisce omnibus, quin plumæ eleventur, non discernendis: gutture, pectore, ventre anoque pallidè luteolis, quavis pluma per medium brunneo lineata; abdominis insuper plumis ma-