

well-pronounced race. Hartert was of the opinion (1918, *Novit. Zool.*, XXV, p. 325) that *rosseliana* Tristram could not be separated from *goldii*. I find, however, that most specimens of *rosseliana* have the white spotting of the under parts more pronounced, the uniformly colored zone on the breast more restricted, and the thighs lighter and clearer ochraceous. Some specimens are indistinguishable.

Ninox connivens assimilis Salvadori and D'Albertis

Two specimens from Vulcan Island are very dark, with broad rufous stripes on the under parts and under wing-coverts (see Rothschild and Hartert, 1915, *Novit. Zool.*, XXII, p. 41). A female from Dampier Island is not as deeply colored and can be matched by a specimen from Veimauri, Galley Reach, southeast New Guinea. Three other birds from southeast New Guinea are still paler, but all these differences seem insufficient for subspecific splitting.

Ninox albomaculata Ramsay is a synonym of *assimilis*. Ramsay's original description as well as Kinghorn's detailed discussion (1933, *Records Austr. Mus.*, XVIII, pp. 452-454) apply in every respect to our specimens of *assimilis*. Kinghorn had apparently no specimen of *assimilis* before him, when he suggested *albomaculata* might be a subspecies of *boobook*.

Ninox rufa humeralis (Bonaparte)

This species fades rapidly in collections. Five males and five females, mostly from southeast New Guinea, measure as follows: wing, ♂, 326, 327, 329, 332, 337, ♀, 306, 310, 313, 314, 314; tail, ♂, 198, 203, 208, 210, 214, ♀, 186, 194, 198, 199. There is no difference between nine specimens from eastern, and one from western New Guinea.

UROGLAUX, NEW GENUS

TYPE.—*Athene dimorpha* Salvadori.

Medium-sized, with a hawklike appearance and a very long tail; tail about two-thirds of the length of the wing (index 63.5-72.7), against one-half or more (index 49-63) in the species of the genus *Ninox*; tail slightly rounded; cere quite inflated, nostrils small; tarsus very heavily feathered, feathers covering even the basal phalanx of the toes; bristles on the bare part of the toes only weakly developed; wing very round (5 > 4 > 6 > 3 > 7 > 2), the fifth primary being the longest, while in all the species of *Ninox* either the third or fourth primary is longest; the sixth primary is longer than the third, while in *Ninox* it is slightly or very much shorter; the emargination on primaries 2, 3 and 4 is weak, on 5 and 6 it is inconspicuous; the bases of the feathers of the crown are white; the pattern of coloration, consisting of bars on the upper parts and stripes below, is quite different from that of any species of the genus *Ninox*.

The first specimen that was brought to me by a New Guinea native was first mistaken by me for a hawk. Dr. Hartert, who was such a genus lumper, suggested already in 1930 (Novit. Zool., XXXVI, p. 110) that *dimorpha* should be separated generically from *Ninox*.

CAPRIMULGIDAE

LYNCORNIS

This genus is supposed to differ from *Eurostopodus* by the presence of ear-tufts and by the more pointed wing. A close examination of several species of *Lyncornis* and *Eurostopodus* has convinced me that this difference is very slight and that the Papuan species *papuensis* and *archboldi* (both of which have no appreciable ear-tufts) must be included with *Eurostopodus* (April, 1838). If the genus *Lyncornis* (August, 1838) is to be recognized at all, it must be used for the group of species which includes *cerviniceps*, *macropterus* and *macrotis*.

Eurostopodus papuensis (Schlegel)

Three specimens from Astrolabe Bay (Beck coll.) differ clearly from a series of three birds from northwest New Guinea. They are darker, with all the black markings broader and coarser. The rufous spotting is paler, more clay-colored, less rufous. The differences of the under parts are less pronounced. The population from Astrolabe Bay will probably have to be called *elegans* Reichenow, although the type of *elegans* is a very unusual specimen, as Stresemann has already remarked (1923, Arch. f. Naturgesch., LXXXIX, fasc. 8, p. 31).

The principal characters of the type specimen of *elegans*, which Dr. E. Stresemann has very kindly loaned to me, are as follows, as compared to typical specimens: center of crown with round black spots, instead of longitudinal streaks; tertials and most of the upper wing-coverts unspotted vinaceous-rufous (a sort of pale milk-chocolate color), very soft; breast and belly of the same color, without black bars or well-defined rufous spots; central tail-feathers dark rufous with the black markings much reduced. This unusual plumage is undoubtedly the juvenal plumage. The softness of the feathers indicates this clearly which is particularly evident at the upper and under tail-coverts which are quite downy. Some of the lesser upper wing-coverts and scapulars apparently belong to the adult (or a sub-adult) plumage. They are marked very similarly to those of normal birds. I do not know of any other species in the family *Caprimulgidae* in which the juvenal plumage is as different from the adult as in this case.