Brown markings on the lower parts regularly transverse, and not ragged. White spots on the upper parts much less than the brown in extent.

Wing, 7.00–7.50; tail, 3.30–4.00; culmen, .70; tarsus, 1.70–1.85; middle toe, .85. Outer tail-feathers and inner webs of primaries with the white much greater in amount than the brown (sometimes continuous along outer webs of the latter). Hab. Southern South America (Chile, Buenos Ayres, Paraguay, etc.). var. cunicularia.¹

Wing, 6.40–7.00; tail, 3.00–3.30; culmen, .50–.60; tarsus, 1.50–1.70; middle toe, .80. Outer tail-feathers and inner webs of the primaries with the white less in extent than the brown (never continuous along outer webs of the primaries). Hab. Middle America, and Western Province of North America. var. hypogaea.²

B. Primaries without broad or regular bars of whiteness on either web; primary coverts plain brown.

Brown markings on the lower parts regularly transverse, and equal in extent to the white. White spots on the upper parts very small, reduced to mere specks on the dorsal region.

Wing, 6.40; tail, 3.40; culmen, .60; tarsus, 1.82; middle toe, .85. Outer tail-feathers and inner webs of the primaries with the light (ochraceous) bars only about one fourth as wide as the brown (disappearing on the inner quills). Hab. Guadeloupe. var. guadeloupensis.³

Spheotyto cunicularia, var. hypogaea, Bonap.

Bubbling Owl


¹ Specotyto cunicularia, var. cunicularia. Strix cunicularia, Molina, St. Chil. 1782, 343. Gmel. S. N. 292, sp. 28, — and of other authors referring to the South American bird.

² Specotyto cunicularia, var. guadeloupensis, Ridgway. This bird is merely a very dark local form of the common species, though it differs very appreciably in the sharper definition, greater extent, and more intense tint of the brown markings of its plumage.

I have been unable to find any description of this form, and believe it to be unnamed. It is certainly not the S. dominicensis, Gmel. (S. N. 296, S. dominicensis, Mull. Gray's Hand List, 43, No. 438), not S. fusca, Vieill. (Gray's Hand List, No. 439). The type is in the collection of the Boston Society of Natural History, and belongs to the Laffresnaye collection (No. 787).