

## EMBERIZA YESSOENSIS.

Three examples from Yezo prove the distinctness of this species, which was figured in 'The Ibis' for 1879, pl. i.

## SYRNIUM URALENSE.

The skin sent (No. 3163) from Yezo is sexed a female, and dated October, but is no more rufous than examples from Krasnoyarsk (see Ibis, 1879, p. 180).

BUBO BLAKISTONI, Seebohm, nov. sp. P. Z. S. Nov. 20th, 1883.

It seems probable that the name of *B. maximus* must be erased from the list of Japan birds. The Owl which has hitherto done duty for this species in Japanese collections turns out to be almost generically distinct. The skin is dated Hakodadi, December.

General colour of the upper parts brown, marbled with buff, which takes the form of transverse bars on the wings and tail; all the small feathers with broad dark-brown shaft-streaks. Underparts similar, but the shaft-streaks narrower. Chin and upper throat white, with very narrow shaft-streaks. Ear-tufts well developed. Tarsus feathered, but toes entirely bare. Length of wing 22 inches, tail 11, tarsus 3·8, culmen 2·5.

This bird is probably the largest known species of Owl, and forms a connecting link between the genera *Bubo* and *Ketupa*. It is perhaps nearest to *B. coromandus*, but is much larger, and is without any trace of feathers on the feet.

## SCOPS STICTONOTUS.

## SCOPS JAPONICUS.

A series from Hakodadi of the grey form to the rufous form presents almost every intermediate stage, and shows that these supposed species are only phases of plumage of a variable species, probably climatic varieties.

## SCOPS SEMITORQUES.

Males appear to measure 6 inches in length of wing and females 7 inches.