

to believe that they are identical; and after a close examination I am also led to consider the *Astur Raii* of the Linnean Catalogue as the young of the same species.

“Of the genus *Milvus* my collection contains two species, and two more beautiful representatives of the two species inhabiting Europe cannot be imagined; for one of these, whose affinities ally it closely to the Common Kite of England, I would propose the name of *Milvus Novæ-Hollandiæ*; and for the other, which is equally allied to the *Milvus ater*, that of *M. aterrimus*.

“The bird which has hitherto been considered as identical with the *Elanus melanopterus* of Africa, is evidently distinct from that species; an unerring difference may be found in the jet black spot on the white part of the under surface of the wing; for this hitherto undescribed species I would propose the name of *notatus*.

“One species of Harrier only, but a very interesting one, inasmuch as it represents there the *Circus rufus* of Europe, has come into my possession. I believe the female of this species to be the *Circus affinis* of Messrs. Jardine and Selby; but as the male has not yet been characterised, and moreover differs very much from the female, to which alone the name of *affinis* would apply, I propose to drop that appellation and to give that of *Jardinei* instead.

“On examining the family of *Strigidæ* or Owls, we cannot but observe the deficiency which exists in some of the subgenera, and the abundance of others; thus while we have never seen any birds belonging to the genera *Bubo*, *Otus*, *Scops*, &c., we have numerous species of the restricted genera *Strix* and *Noctua*: the name of *Noctua*, however, having been applied by Linnæus to one of the tribes in Entomology, ought not perhaps to be adopted; that of *Athene*, proposed by M. Boje, and employed by some German naturalists, may be used in its stead.

“Four species of this genus are now on the table, the two largest of which are new to science. For the largest I would propose the name of *Athene strenua*, and for the other that of *A. fortis*. The third has been characterised by Messrs. Vigors and Horsfield as the *Noctua Boobook*, and the *Noctua maculata* of these gentlemen seems to be identical with it. For the fourth and last species of the genus, which is from Van Diemen's Land, and which is evidently distinct from either, I propose the name of *leucopsis*, from the white colouring of its face. The species of the genus *Strix* which I have called *delicatus*, together with my *Strix cyclops* and *Strix castanops* and the *Strix personata* of Messrs. Vigors and Horsfield, may be said to be closely allied, but distinct species.

“In conclusion it may be remarked that the birds belonging to the Raptorial Order inhabiting Australia and the adjacent islands are extremely few in number, when compared with those found in other countries; at the same time, as our knowledge of this part of the world is very limited, the number will in all probability be considerably increased as these countries become more fully known to us.

“At present the species are twenty-six in number, and are distributed as follows.