

like the head ; lores and forehead clear fulvous with little black spots along the shaft of the feathers ; sides of face rufous, inclining to dark brown around the eye ; behind the ear-coverts a line of black feathers running down the sides of the neck ; under surface of body tawny rufous, paler on the lower parts and varied with little tiny spots of black along the shafts, less distinct towards the abdomen and absent on the thighs and under tail-coverts, which are uniform tawny buff ; quills dark brown, barred across with fulvous, paler on the outer margin of primaries, but less distinct on the secondaries, which are almost uniform rufous like the back, but with indistinct bars of dark brown on the inner web ; tail rufous, mottled with dark brown vermiculations, making it look darker than the back, with remains of five or six more or less plainly indicated fulvous bars ; under wing-coverts buffy white, more tawny on outer edge and having a line of dark brown feathers near the outer margin.

Wing, 132 ; tail, 66 ; culmen, 19 ; tarsus, 27 ; middle toe with claw, 32.

The present new race is different from the typical form from Java (type), Malacca, Johore and Borneo, in having a much darker face, and the ear-coverts shaded with black. It has very little of the buffish tinge, but a smoky grey is particularly noticeable on the forehead and under surface of the body.

**General Notes.**—The type and only specimen was obtained by Burbidge, a botanist and the author of "The Garden of the Sun." The species is particularly interesting from the point of view of zoogeography, as one rarely finds a Bornean species represented in the Sulu Islands and unknown in the Palawan subregion.

#### **Allied Forms and their Range :**

<i>Otus r. malayensis</i> Hachisuka <sup>1</sup>	.	.	.	Malay Peninsula
<i>O. r. rufescens</i> (Horsfield)	.	.	.	Java (type), Sumatra, Borneo

<sup>1</sup> For the Malayan representative of *O. rufescens* a name is required. The only synonym in the *Catalogue of Birds, British Museum*, is *Ephialtes mantis*, which is described in the Fauna Japonica as a certain bird found in Celebes. This is obviously a mistake, and as there seems no name for the Malayan bird I propose therefore to call it

*Otus rufescens malayensis*, subsp. nov.

**Distribution.**—Mt. Ophir, Malacca, Malay Peninsula. Type in British Museum. A specimen from Gunang Pulai, Johore, also belongs to the present form.

**Description.**—This new race can at once be distinguished by its rufous tinge throughout when compared with the typical race. The most striking character is the forehead, which has a number of reddish buff feathers reaching to the ear-tufts, which are much restricted in the typical form from Java and Borneo. The bristle feathers surrounding the upper mandible are rufous.