

V.—NEW SPECIES OF THE STRIGINE FAMILY.

Genus ULULA? *Species* new, NEWARENSIS, Newār* Owl, nobis.

Form. Bill shorter than the head, but of considerable length and somewhat straightened towards the base, moderately compressed, strong, at base as high as broad; tomice, plane and scarcely locked; tip of the lower mandible notched and truncated.

Nares large, ovoid, sub-transverse, opened chiefly towards the front and placed high on anteaal edge of the cere which is somewhat tumid and soft behind them, though far less so than in *Noctua*. Cere rather large and, as well as the nares, concealed by bristles. Disc medial, complete, decidedly less than in *Otus*. Corch medial, elliptic valved, with the auditory canal opened basally. Tarsi and toes medial, longer than in *Bubo*, moderately stout, thickly plumed with one or two scales next each talon. Talons acute, moderately unequal, somewhat squared and channelled below, inner fore and central equal; hind least. Tail longish, squared, firm, sub-bowed. Wings medial, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches less the tail; 5 and 6 quills longest and equal; 4 first considerably and sub-equally gradated; 1st $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches less the longest; all the great quills considerably emarginated remotely from their tips and on both webs, save the 1st which has the outer web entire. Outer webs of all these quills more or less pectinated; of the 1st entirely so. Scapulars five inches, and tertiaries two inches, shorter than the longest primary. Egrets none.

Colour and Size. Head, dorsal neck, outer soft zone of the disc, back, scapulars, and wing coverts, saturate rich brown and immaculate; remiges and rectrices the same, but crossed by many (10 to 12) narrow bars of a whity-brown hue, and the tips of both slightly but clearly blanchied. Entire body below, as well as the legs and feet, the lining of the wings, the disc

* Name of the indigenous people of Nepal proper.

and the inner and concealed scapular feathers, pale sordid rusty, with very many (12 to 14 per plume) transverse narrow bands of a bright brown, darkened on the lower edge; brows rufous-hoary; margin round the eye and space between eyes and nostrils black, a white transverse zone on the throat below the disc; breast darker than the body; quills internally towards their bases, bright buff and many of the upper wing coverts, barred internally; iris dark brown; bill bluish towards base; greenish horn yellow towards tip; talons horn grey with blackish tips: 20 to 21 inches by 48 to 50 between the wings. Weight $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Sexes alike both as to size and colours.

Remark. These birds are entirely nocturnal: they tenant the interior of woods and never approach houses. They are commonest in the central region—rare in the northern—unknown to the southern.

In the present state of Strigine classification it is impossible to say to what genus or subgenus our birds should be referred. They may be *Nyctæ*, or *Ululæ*, or a *tertium quid*: and at all events, the bill is neither short nor arched from the base, as (for example) in *Otus*, in *Scops*, and in *Noctua*. I have set them down in my note book as the type of a new genus or subgenus under the Newar generic title of *Bulaca*, with the more significant of the characters above given in detail.

Genus BUBO? *Species* new. CAVEARIUS nobis.—Hole-haunting Owl nobis.

Form. Bill and nostrils as in the last. Disc smaller and incomplete over the eye, but still of considerable size. Opening of the ears ovoid, not valved, smaller rather than in the last, but still large: the auditory canal opened subcentrally on the postear side and crossed by a membranous band couch, $1\frac{3}{16}$ inch long. Feet as in the last, but the tarsi rather higher and slenderer, and the talons not channeled below, but merely squared. Wings longer and less gradated; $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches less the tail; tertiaries and scapulars both long, subequal, and falling within 2 inches of the ends of the great primaries; the latter not bowed though soft and broad webbed; 3d and 4th quills subequal and longest; 1st, scarcely $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch less than the 3d,