STRIX NYCTEA.

VAR. STRIATA.

CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Rostrum aduncum (absque cera.)

Nares pennis setaceis recumbentibus obtektæ.

Caput grande : auribus oculisque magnis.

Lingua bifida.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 131.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS.

STRIX capite lævi, corpore albido maculis
lunatis distantibus fuscis.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 132.

Avis hæc inter varietates est rarissimas ac elegantissimas magnæ et nivææ strigis Americam simul ac Europam septentrionalem incolentis : plerumque est tota nivea, maculis aliquot lunatis fusco-nigricantibus interspersis : varietas autem de qua jam loquimur, est per totum fere corpus notis numerosissimis fuscis obducta, quæ versus collum sensim angustiores fiunt, et in breves et interruptas fascias concurrunt, quibus etiam tota avis subtus notata est : caput omnino albet ; ut et pedes, qui, ut in aliis omnibus hujus speciei ex-

emplis, ad ipsos ungues plumis velleri similibus den-
sissime vestiuntur: rostrum unguisque nigricant;
irides flavent.

S. 1.

London, Published by T. & A. Agnew & Sons, 15, Broad Street.

THE
SNOWY OWL.
A STRIPED VARIETY.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill crooked (not furnished with a cere).
Nostrils covered with recumbent bristly feathers.
Head large : *Ears* and *Eyes* large.
Tongue bifid.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

HORNLESS WHITE OWL, marked with
distant lunated spots.

SNOWY OWL.

Lath. 1. p. 132.

GREAT WHITE OWL.

Edwards 2. pl. 61.

The bird here figured is a most curious and beautiful variety of the great Snow-white Owl ; a species which is a native both of the northern parts of Europe and of America, and in size is equal to the great Eagle-Owl. In its common or general state it is of a snowy whiteness, with here and there a few small scattered crescent-shaped spots of blackish brown ; but the specimen now represented is spotted all over the upper surface with numerous marks of brown,

brown, which as they approach the neck become narrower, and run into short interrupted fasciæ or bands, with which also the whole under surface of the bird is ornamented: the head is white; the feet also are perfectly white; and like all other individuals of this species, are most thickly coated with feathers to the very claws, so as to have the appearance of a very deep fur: the bill and claws are black: the irides yellow.

Shaw, George. 1790. "The Snowy Owl, A Striped Variety, *Strix nyctea* var. *striata* [Pl. 47]." *The Naturalist's Miscellany* 2(XVII), <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.310699>.

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