NOCTUA CUCULOÏDES.

Drawn from Nature and on Stone by E. Gould.

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Ordo RAPTORES.

Fam. STRIGIDÆ.

Genus NOCTUA, Cuv.

TAB. IV.

NOCTUA CUCULOÏDES.

Noct. brunneo-fusca ; capite, dorso, tectricibus alarum, corporeque subtùs albo graciliter fasciatis ; remigibus externè albo maculatis ; reatricibus utrinque fasciis albis quinque notatis ; gulâ albâ.

Longitudo corporis, 9½ unc. ; alæ, 5½ ; caudæ, 3½ ; tarsi, 1½.

THIS small *Owl*, which is here placed among that division of the family to which M. Cuvier has applied the title of *Noctua*, is the only example of the species that has as yet come under our observation. There is an African species figured in the splendid Work of M. Temminck *, which closely resembles it both in size and the general character of its plumage ; the colour of the upper surface, however, is more rufous, and the transverse bars less numerous and more obscure, being whiter with large irregular spots of deep chestnut, and assuming the figure of regular bars on the side of the chest. The present species may be observed to be more uniform in its plumage, being brown above and below with distinct narrow lines of yellowish white, and exhibiting the style of colouring of the immature Cuckoo, whence its specific name of *cuculoïdes*. It appears to be strictly confined to the range of the Himalayan Mountains, having never been brought to Europe, so far as is known, from any other part of India.

In size, the *Noctua cuculoïdes* closely approximates to the *Passerine Owl* of Europe, to which we should expect it to be allied in habits and manners.

* *Chouette Brame*, Pl. Col. 68.

Gould, John. 1831. "Noctua cuculoïdes [Tab. IV]." *A century of birds from the Himalaya Mountains* –. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.323556>.

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