

said to have come from either San Domingo or Porto Rico¹. It represents a very dark bird, but the terminal half of the tarsi being naked renders it more than probable that a specimen of this continental species was depicted. Vieillot subsequently changed his name to *Strix psilopoda*¹¹, assigning no reason for so doing.

Cassin identified a bird from Colombia as belonging to this species¹⁰, but the only specimens we have seen have been from Costa Rica and the State of Panama. The former vary to a considerable extent in their markings, some being more conspicuously mottled below with white, some paler red above with more distinct dark marks, but all agree in having the naked tarsus. Besides the specimens obtained for us, Mr. Rothschild has several sent him by Mr. Underwood from Costa Rica.

Non cornuti.

CICCABA.

Ciccaba, Wagler, Isis, 1832, p. 1222.

Pulsatrix (subgenus), Kaup, Isis, 1848, p. 771.

Syrnium, Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. ii. p. 244 (partim).

The genus *Ciccaba* was founded by Wagler in 1832 with *Strix huhula*, Daud., as the type. In the diagnosis the comparatively small size of the ear-opening is referred to, a character at once separating *Ciccaba huhula* from true *Syrnium*. With the typical form we associate, as in the 'Nomenclator Avium Neotropicalium,' *Ciccaba virgata* and its allies and also *C. perspicillata*, which in that work is placed in a separate genus, *Pulsatrix*, Kaup. Should it hereafter be thought desirable to keep *C. virgata* and its allies distinct from true *Ciccaba*, a separation which may be justified, the name *Pulsatrix* may be used for *C. virgata* as well as *C. perspicillata*, though the latter remains the type.

Ciccaba belongs to the small-eared section of the Owls, which have no ear-tufts. In general appearance many of the species resemble some of the true *Syrnii* rather than the genera which follow—*Glaucidium* &c. They are, moreover, much larger birds, and may be distinguished at a glance. There are two well-marked sections of the genus, one of which is distinguished by its black plumage relieved by white transverse bars; the other has either the mottled plumage common to so many Owls or the brown-and-buff colour distinguishing *C. perspicillata* and *C. melanonota*.

Of the first section, one species, *C. nigrolineata*, ranges from Southern Mexico to Colombia; the type of *Ciccaba*, *C. huhula*, is found only in the northern portion of South America: a third, *C. spilonota*, is also found in Colombia, but probably lives in a distinct district from *C. nigrolineata*, divided by a high mountain-range; it is intermediate between the other two, but can be easily recognized from either.

Of the second section, *C. perspicillata* has a wide range in Central America and reaches the Mexican State of Vera Cruz; it also spreads over nearly the whole of Tropical South America. Of our other two species, *C. virgata* extends far into the