

9. *Asio brachyotus*, Forster.

*Strix sandwichensis*, Bloxam, Voy. Blonde, p. 250.

*Asio galapagoensis*, Cassin, Mamm. and Orn., U.S. Expl. Exp., p. 207.

*Asio acciptrinus*, Sharpe, Cat. B., vol. ii. p. 234.

*Otus brachyotus*, Scl., Proc. Zool. Soc., 1878, p. 348.

[No. 544. Male. Eyes yellow. Brought on board alive.]

10. *Buteo solitarius*, Peale (Pl. XXI.).

*Buteo solitarius*, Peale, Zool. U. S. Expl. Exp., Birds, p. 62 (1848); Scl., Proc. Zool. Soc., 1878, p. 348.

*Pandion solitarius*, Cassin, Mamm. & Orn. U. S. Expl. Exp., p. 97, Atlas, pl. iv.

*Polioæetus solitarius*, Sharpe, Cat. B., vol. i. p. 452.

[No. 540. Female. Eyes brown; cere and legs yellow; bill black.]

Mr J. H. Gurney has kindly examined this interesting bird for me (of which two specimens were obtained, but one of them was subsequently lost), and supplied me with the following notes:—

“The female Buzzard brought from Owhyhee by the Challenger Expedition (No. 540 in that collection) appears to be of the same species, though in a different stage of plumage, as the previously unique specimen from the same island, which is preserved in the Museum of the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia, and which was described by Peale, in the first edition of the Zoology of the United States Exploring Expedition, published in 1848, under the name of *Buteo solitarius*.

“In the subsequent edition of this work, published in 1858, and edited by the late Mr Cassin, the generic name of *Buteo*, as applied to this species, was dropped, and that of *Pandion* substituted, with the following remark:—‘This bird is strictly a member of a sub-genus of the generic group *Pandion* designated *Polioæetus* by Dr Kaup.’ (*Vide op. cit.*, p. 98.)

“Mr Ridgway, on the contrary, after an examination of the type specimen, wrote to me that he considered it a ‘Buteonine form differing from the true *Buteones* only . . . in the system of coloration, which reminds us somewhat of *Milvago chimachima*.’

“In the specimen brought home in the Challenger there is much less resemblance to the coloration of *Milvago chimachima*, and nothing, in my opinion, to justify the removal of this species from the genus *Buteo*.

“The following is a comparison of the measurements of the Challenger example with those of the type specimen as given by Mr Cassin in the work to which I have referred:—