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THE WHITE TUFTED SCREECH OWL.

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IF there be a connecting link between the species of the large horned owl and that of the screech owl, doubtless the present one, described by Levaillant, would be that intermediate chain.

This bird has not the sort of horns common to the former, but instead, a kind of long, flexible feathers, which do not erect themselves, but fall on the sides of the head. They spring from near the basis of the beak, and, passing above the eyes, descend towards the lower part of the neck. The colour of these feathers is very brilliant, and the end ones are longer than the rest.

The size of this bird approaches towards that of the small horned owl. Its wings do not extend to above one half of its tail. A reddish brown colour, finely striped with deep brown lines and intermixed with white spots on the wings and tail, form the prevailing colour