



KERGUELEN PETREL
Pterodroma brevirostris

The Emu

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The Kerguelen Petrel, *Pterodroma brevirostris*.

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DR. GODMAN in his *Monograph of The Petrels* figures this species (pl. 60), remarking: "This Fulmar (Petrel) is recognised by its entirely slaty-grey (dark drab-grey, with slate-grey tinge) plumage and compressed bill. The axillaries and under wing-coverts are also slaty-grey, with whitish edges to feathers, the lower primary-coverts and inner webs of the quills being paler grey, but without white."

Both Rev. A. E. Eaton and Dr. Kidder, respectively of the British and American Transit of Venus Expeditions to Kerguelen in 1874, found the species breeding (October to December); and our member, Robert Hall, who visited the island in 1897, states*—"On January 25th (1898), in Greenland Harbour, I dug out a hollow that branched in two directions at 5 feet from the entrance. One tunnel went for another 6 feet and contained at the end a Spectacled Petrel (*Majaqueus aequinoctialis*) upon a nest without an egg. The other branch had a dome-shaped cavity some 18 inches from the confluence in which sat a Short-tailed Petrel (*Ostrelata brevirostris*) without an egg. The nest indicated that the bird was a fully fledged young one."

The Kerguelen Petrel is new for Australia† and the specimen figured by N. W. Cayley is from the "H. L. White collection," National Museum, Melbourne; was picked up on the Western Australian Coast after a storm by F. L. Whitlock, who also saw remains of one, or more, of the same species. Whitlock's account of finding these specimens appears elsewhere in this issue.

The following are particulars of the specimen figured in the flesh: Locality, Cottesloe Beach, Western Australia; date, 3/6/26; plumage, immature; length, 315 mm.; wing, 250 mm.; culmen, 35 mm.; tarsus, 40 mm.; bill, black; eyes, brown (?); feet, dark-brown (?). Note: Specimen not fresh when found.

**Ibis*, 1900, p. 24.

†*Vide Emu*, ante, p. 136.