

## Visitors to New Zealand

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The writer, in January, 1927, contributed an article to *The Emu* on the stragglers and migratory birds of New Zealand, with a view to compiling a complete list of those species, as the position of many of the visitors was doubtful. Since then, with the publication of Mr. W. R. B. Oliver's *New Zealand Birds*, future ornithologists have been provided with a sound basis on which to work, as all stragglers to New Zealand or its outlying islands are included. A classification of all species recorded from New Zealand or its outlying islands, as visitors, is given hereunder, as the writer understands the position at present, with a view to supplementing the previous article.

(i) One occurrence; mainland or mainland waters (North, South, and Stewart Islands) :—

*Thalassarche chlororhynchus*, Yellow-nosed Mollymawk.  
*Phœbetria fusca*, Sooty Albatross.  
*Pelecanus conspicillatus*, Australian Pelican.  
*Anhinga novæ-hollandiæ*, Darter.  
*Sterna paradisea*, Arctic Tern.  
*Catharacta maccormicki*, Antarctic Skua.  
*Charadrius ruficapillus*, Red-capped Dotterel.  
*Crocethia alba*, Sanderling.  
*Glottis nebularius*, Greenshank.  
*Lobipes lobatus*, Northern Phalarope.  
*Stiltia isabella*, Australian Pratincole.  
*Crex crex*, Land Rail.  
*Microtribonyx ventralis*, Black-tailed Native Hen.  
*Ardea cinerea*, Grey Heron.  
*Cuculus optatus*, Oriental Cuckoo.  
*Micropus pacificus*, Australian Swift.

(ii) Two occurrences :—

*Oceanites oceanicus*, Wilson's Storm Petrel.  
*Fregetta lineata*, Peale's Storm Petrel.  
*Pachyptila belcheri*, Thin-billed Prion.  
*Anous stolidus*, Common Noddy.  
*Lobibyx novæ-hollandiæ*, Spur-winged Plover.  
*Gallinago hardwickii*, Japanese Snipe.\*  
*Tringa incanus*, Wandering Tattler.  
*Phalaropus fulicarius*, Red Phalarope.  
*Hirundapus caudacutus*, Spine-tailed Swift.  
*Anthochaera carunculata*, Red Wattle-Bird.

\*Reported to have been seen in several years.

## (iii) Three occurrences:—

*Fregata ariel*, Lesser Frigate Bird.  
*Sula leucogaster*, Brown Booby.\*  
*Dendrocygna eytoni*, Plumed Whistling Duck.  
*Nycticorax caledonicus*, Nankeen Night Heron.  
*Plegadis falcinellus*, Glossy Ibis.  
*Falco cenchroides*, Nankeen Kestrel.

\*Including one at Kermadec Islands.

## (iv) Several occurrences:—

*Halobæna cærulea*, Blue Petrel (7).  
*Puffinus tenuirostris*, Short-tailed Shearwater (4).  
*Fregata minor*, Greater Frigate Bird (4).  
*Limosa hæmastica*, Hudsonian Godwit (5).  
*Mesoscolopax minutus*, Little Whimbrel (4).  
*Fulica atra*, Coot (4).  
*Threskiornis molucca*, Australian White Ibis (5).  
*Platalea regia*, Royal Spoonbill (4).  
*Coracina novæ-hollandiæ*, Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike (4).

\*Including one occurrence at the Kermadec Islands.

## (v) Occasional visitors:—

*Priocella antarctica*, Silver-grey Petrel.  
*Thalassarche chrysostoma*, Grey-headed Mollymawk.  
*Nyroca australis*, White-eyed Duck.\*  
*Chidonias leucoptera*, White-winged Black Tern.  
*Pisobia pectoralis*, Pectoral Sandpiper.  
*Erolia ruficollis*, Red-necked Stint.  
*Numenius cyanopus*, Curlew.  
*Numenius phæopus*, Whimbrel.  
*Recurvirostra novæ-hollandiæ*, Red-necked Avocet.  
*Notophoxyx novæ-hollandiæ*, White-faced Heron.  
*Eurystomus orientalis*, Eastern Broad-billed Roller.  
*Hylochelidon nigricans*, Australian Tree Martin.

\*Possibly resident, apparently was at one time.

## (vi) Regular visitors:—

*Stercorarius parasiticus*, Parasitic Jaeger (Skua).  
*Arenaria interpres*, Turnstone.  
*Pluvialis dominicus*, Lesser Golden Plover.  
*Calidris canutus*, Knot.  
*Erolia acuminata*, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.  
*Limosa lapponica*, Bar-tailed Godwit.  
*Lamprocoptes lucidus*, Shining Cuckoo.  
*Urodynamis taitensis*, Long-tailed Cuckoo.

## (vii) Visitors to mainland, breeding on outlying islands:

*Aptenodytes patagonica*, King Penguin.  
*Eudyptes chrysocome*, Victoria Penguin.  
*Eudyptes sclateri*, Big-crested Penguin.  
*Eudyptes schlegeli*, Royal Penguin.

*Fregetta tropica*, Black-bellied Storm Petrel.  
*Daption capensis*, Cape Pigeon.\*  
*Procellaria cinerea*, Grey Petrel.  
*Procellaria æquinoctialis*, White-chinned Petrel.  
*Pterodroma lessoni*, White-headed Petrel.  
*Pterodroma axillaris*, Chatham Island Petrel.  
*Phæthon rubricauda*, Red-tailed Tropic Bird.  
*Sterna fuscata*, Sooty Tern (1).  
*Cygis alba*, White Tern (1).  
*Procelsterna albivitta*, Grey Noddy (2).

\*Possibly a regular visitor.

(viii) Regular visitors to mainland waters, breeding on outlying islands:—

*Diomedea exulans*, Wandering Albatross.  
*Diomedea epomophora*, Royal Albatross.  
*Diomedea melanophris*, Black-browed Mollymawk.  
*Thalassarche bulleri*, Buller's Mollymawk.  
*Diomedea cauta*, White-capped Mollymawk.  
*Phæbetria palpebrata*, Grey-mantled Albatross.

(ix) Visitors to outlying islands (not recorded from mainland):—

*Pelecanoides georgicus*, South Georgian Diving Petrel (3).  
*Sterna bergii*, Crested Tern (1).  
*Charadrius veredus*, Oriental Dotterel (1).

**Birds and Poisonous Plants.**—In Mr. C. Sullivan's comprehensive paper on the birds of North-western New South Wales, in the October *Emu* (Vol. XXXI, p. 134), I noticed the interesting remark that the poisonous berries of white cedar are eaten by the Spotted Bower-bird. Another instance of the kind came under my observation some years ago. Native Bryony (*Bryonia laciniosa*) was growing in profusion on the fences of a new "scrub" farm, and bore a heavy crop of pretty red-and-white berries. These berries attracted Silvereyes in great numbers, and for some weeks apparently formed the staple food of these little nomads. They easily punctured the soft rind of the berries, and ate the pulpy flesh with evident relish. Yet this fruit is known to be very poisonous to stock, and has caused severe illness, if not death, in cases when it has been eaten by children. Besides the Silvereyes, I observed Mistletoe-birds, male and female, eating the same berries, the birds being lured by them to the ground from their beloved tree-tops.

These instances appear to prove that birds safely eat some wild fruits which quadrupeds and humans cannot consume without harmful or fatal results. It would be interesting to ascertain whether the birds' immunity extends to all of our reputedly-poisonous native plants.—  
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