

March 21, 1868, p. 4, bottom of column 6. North-east coast of Australia.

"I have named this new species after its discoverer, whose exertions have brought to light several other new species, which will hereafter be described."

*Ptilotis frenata* Ramsay, *Sydney Mail*, August 15, 1874, p. 201.

*Eopsaltria inornata* Ramsay, *Sydney Mail*, August 15, 1874, p. 201. "Buckingham Bay" = Rockingham Bay, Queensland.

*Rhypidura superciliosa* Ramsay, *Sydney Mail*, August 15, 1874, p. 201. Rockingham Bay.

*Cyclopsitta macleayana* Ramsay, *Sydney Mail*, November 7, 1874, p. 587. Near Cardwell. (See Chisholm, *The Emu*, vol. XXIX, 1929, p. 81.)

*Corymbicola mestoni* De Vis, *Brisbane Courier*, October 4, 1889. *vide* Mathews, *A List of the Birds of Australasia*, 1931, p. 447.

There are many interesting natural history articles, accounts of explorations, and biographies of naturalists, in the back files of newspapers, and probably more new species of such men as Diggles, Ramsay, and De Vis, may come to light with further reading. Papers quoted in this article were consulted at the Mitchell Library, Sydney, and the Public Library, Melbourne.

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**Oyster-catchers in Company.**—A few days ago, when a fellow-member, Mr. H. C. Thompson, and I were visiting an estuary a few miles from Devonport, we saw a much larger gathering of Oyster-catchers than either of us had previously come across. There were quite one hundred of the birds, most of them crowded together on a sand-spit just at the edge of the tide, on the look-out for small crustaceans or other food, just as the Silver Gulls stand at the edge of the waves watching for whatever fortune may send along. The great majority were of the Pied species (*Hæmatopus ostralegus*), but a few Sootys (*H. unicolor*) were mixed with the others. The red bills and attractive plumage made quite a charming spectacle in the afternoon sunshine. Mr. Cayley says in his bird-book, with regard to each species, "mostly singly or in pairs," and that had been our experience, so that it was quite pleasing to see such a gathering, and under ideal conditions.

Inland a little from the shore a great many coast honey-suckles (*Banksia marginata*) were in flower, and in them dozens of Brush Wattle-birds were feeding and uttering their series of comical notes. It was amusing to watch the squabbles going on between them and the White-bearded Honeyeaters in the same trees. The latter is a very truculent bird, but met his match in the Brush Wattle-birds—sometimes they would tumble out of the banksia together, falling to the ground still fighting.—H. STUART DOVE, Devonport, Tas., 11/5/38.