

Glareola orientalis (Oriental Pratincole).—Breeds in southern Dauria.

Apus (Micropus) pacificus (White-rumped Swift).—Breeds from steppes of Akmolinsk Government, in south-western Siberia, through Siberia, and as far north as at least $58\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ N. on Yenisei and 60° N. on Lena.

Hirundo gutturalis (Eastern Swallow).—South-eastern Siberia. (All my specimens from Kolyma, Yana, middle Lena, and south-eastern part of Yeniseisk Government—basins of Chuna and Mura, left tributaries of Angara or upper Tunguska—belong to *H. tythleri*; and specimens from Yeniseisk Government, west of 96° E. from Greenwich, to *H. rustica typica*).

I may add that *Acanthyllis (Chætura) caudacuta* (Spine-tailed Swift) breeds from upper parts of Yenisei as far north as Yeniseisk, and in Amur Land to the northern parts of Amur basin.

Descriptions of a New Petrel and of Some Nestlings.

BY A. F. BASSET HULL, R.A.O.U., SYDNEY.

***Puffinus intermedius*, n. sp.**—SOLITARY PETREL.

Adult Male.—General colour above blackish-brown, feathers of the back narrowly margined with lighter; crown of the head black; throat, sides of the neck, and entire under surface greyish-brown, the shafts of the breast feathers black; bases of all the body feathers grey, darker towards the tip; wing coverts and secondaries blackish-brown, margined with lighter; primaries darker; under wing coverts ashy-grey, with black shafts; rump and upper tail coverts black, broadly margined with dark grey; outer tail feathers sooty-black, the central feather distinctly longer than the others.

Bill lead colour; tarsi lead colour in front, bluish behind; toes black; interdigital membrane bluish-black above, darker beneath; iris black.

Total length, 17 inches; wing, 10.5; tail, 3.5; bill, 1.25; tarsus, 2; middle toe and claw, 2.5.

Compared with *Puffinus brevicaudus* (Gould), this bird is larger (4 inches longer), more robust, has a stouter bill, and is generally lighter in colour. It differs from *P. griseus* (Gmelin) in its slightly smaller size, much smaller and slighter bill, darker colour, and the absence of the white under wing coverts.

The type specimen was taken by me, in company with Mr. Thos. P. Austin, at Cabbage Tree Island, at the entrance to Port Stephens, New South Wales, on the 4th December, 1910 (*vide Emu*, vol. x., p. 257). The bird was discovered in a burrow beneath a boulder in the scrub about half-way towards the top of the island. Quite close to this burrow a male Wedge-tailed Petrel was also found in a similar retreat. Both birds appeared to be merely in hiding, and there was no apparent intention of using the hiding-place as a nest.



White-winged Petrel (*Estrelata leucoptera*) in Nesting Site,
Cabbage Tree Island, New South Wales.

FROM A PHOTO. BY A. F. BASSET HULL.



Nestling White-winged Petrel (*Estrelata leucoptera*),
Cabbage Tree Island, New South Wales.

FROM A PHOTO. BY S. W. JACKSON.

This bird (*P. intermedius*) was very savage, and made several vicious dashes at my hand, hissing and making a wailing cry at intervals.

***Œstrelata leucoptera* (Gould)—WHITE-WINGED PETREL**

Nestling.—About four weeks old :—Head and the whole upper surface covered with bluish-grey down, extending on to the flanks ; chin, throat, and upper breast white ; centre of breast, abdomen, and under tail white. Bill black ; interdigital membrane fleshy white and basal half black. Total length, 8 inches.

Younger birds, about 5 inches in length, show more of the white on the under surface. Both taken on Cabbage Tree Island, 30th January, 1911. (See Plate IX.)

***Puffinus sphenurus* (Gould)—WEDGE-TAILED PETREL.**

Nestling.—About two weeks old :—Covered with down, the upper and most of the under surface ashy-grey, throat and upper breast greyish-white. Bill black, with horn-coloured tip. Feet yellowish-white. Total length, 6 inches. Broughton Island, 30th January, 1911.

About ten weeks old :—True feathers on back and wings sooty-black, ashy-grey on the breast ; throat darker. Bill black ; feet and toes yellowish-white. Total length, 10 inches. Broughton Island, 13th March, 1911.

Avifauna of New South Wales Islands.

BY A. F. BASSET HULL, R.A.O.U., SYDNEY.

PART I.

THE superior greenness of distant hills is proverbial, and the same attraction of remoteness appeals to the average ornithologist, who will accomplish long journeys to visit distant islands in search of something new, passing by unsuspected treasure-spots near home. Generations of naturalists have gone far afield from Sydney, neglecting the numerous islets dotted along the coast of New South Wales, unaware of the riches that lay so close to hand.

In my last contribution to this journal (*Emu*, vol. x., p. 253), I gave a brief account of the results of three visits to the islands in the vicinity of Port Stephens, and I propose now to continue the narrative of other expeditions taken since, and (I hope) to be taken from time to time as opportunity permits.

With the valuable co-operation of Mr. H. L. White, of Belltrees, N.S.W., I have made two more expeditions, and look forward to many more visits to our coastal islands during the remainder of this year.

A brief glance at previous expeditions and results may be permitted as a preface to this series of notes. In September, 1907, I visited Montague Island, 150 miles south of Sydney, where the Silver Gulls (*Larus novæ-hollandiæ*) were found breeding in great