

Shore-birds were not plentiful, and only comprised species common to our North-West coast.

The only sea-birds were a pair or two of Caspian Terns (*Hydroprogne caspia*) and a flock of the common Silver Gull; but on Double Island a colony of the Wedge-tailed Petrel (*Puffinus sphenurus*) were breeding, and I obtained a few eggs after much laborious digging out of burrow nests.

The smaller islands and islets of Dampier Archipelago, though very numerous, closely resemble one another in physical features. As a rule they are very low, long, and narrow. The shore on the land side is generally sandy, and on the ocean side rocky and often wild, low cliffs. The cliffs on one or two islands are tenanted by the Dampier Cockatoo (*Cacatua sanguinea*) during the breeding season. I was informed that two eggs only are laid in holes and recesses in the cliffs, but occasionally pairs will breed in hollow spouts where there are large mangroves. On several of the islands I saw pairs of the Long-billed Stone-Curlew, but I failed to find eggs, despite much systematic searching. Terns were seen in small flocks, apparently travelling to some breeding-grounds further north. At one island near Cossack a party of Frigate-Birds was sailing about overhead. Black-breasted Gannets, too, were seen plunging after their prey in the neighbourhood of other islands, but no breeding colonies of any sea-birds were discovered.

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**Black-and-White Wren of Barrow Island, W.A.**—With Government sanction, I commissioned Mr. F. L. Whitlock to visit Barrow Island for museum specimens of the Black-and-White Wren; also, if possible, to procure its nest and eggs. Unfortunately, he did not succeed in finding eggs, but the following is a description of a nest:—Dome-shaped, with side entrance near top; composed of broken blades of dry grass, grass rootlets, and profusely matted with light-coloured, brown, fine silky substance, probably portions of spiders' egg-cocoons. There is also a sprinkling of similar white material and a small, single, white downy feather. Dimensions.—Six inches long by 3 inches broad; entrance,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches across; depth, inside, from lower lip of entrance, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.—H. L. WHITE. Belltrees, N.S.W.

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**Long Flights by Birds.**—A Thrush was caught at Southport, England, recently with a ring on its leg marked "Inform Witherby, High Holborn, London." Mr. H. F. Witherby, who is the editor of *British Birds*, has, since 1910, had 75,000 birds so marked in the hope of learning something about their travels. A Swallow ringed in Lancashire was found seven months later at Grahams-town, South Africa, 6,000 miles away. A Lesser Black-backed Gull, ringed at the Farne Islands, off Northumberland, was found eight months later at St. Louis, Senegal, and a Blackbird, ringed at London, was found in Moscow a few weeks afterwards. It would seem that birds are greater travellers than most of us imagine.