

"Iris brown, skin chalky-white above, bluish-grey below." The notes on our Nornalup skins read: "Iris walnut, upper eyelid bare skin right across the eye white, bare skin exactly below the eye blue-grey." Of the female the notes are: "Similar except that the iris is described as purplish-red, possibly caused by a suffusion of blood." The form round Perth which was described by Gould under the name of *M. chloropsis*, has a greenish eyelid, and both it and *whitlocki* from Nornalup and Wilson's Inlet are considerably larger birds than *M. lunulatus* from the southern and eastern States; also the black throatal patch at the base of the beak is in the western birds distinctly larger. The southern and eastern birds have a bright orange-red eyelid.

*Red Wattle-Bird (*Anthochaera carunculata*).—The extraordinary, loud notes of this interesting bird were to us, visitors from the east, one of the strangest sounds in the bush. The typical eastern Little Wattle-Bird nests at Blackwood, South Australia, and although this species has a wonderful repertoire of vocal sounds, the calls of the western birds are entirely dissimilar, and still more striking. If the very distinctive character of the call-notes were taken into consideration, with its less striking differences in plumage, it surely might be considered worthy of full specific rank, as accorded it by Gould.

Grey Bell-Magpie (*Strepera versicolor plumbea*).—Numerous throughout the forest country.

Notes from Southern Tasmania.—Lying in my tent on the bank of the Picton River, southern Tasmania, listening to the wonderful chorus of Shrike-Thrushes seeking their breakfast in the tall stringybarks, and watching the early morning mists rising thickly from the warm river, the air is suddenly rent by the screaming of a flock of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos. Presently a Sparrow-Hawk appears and, selecting a straggler, albeit twice as big as himself, attacks him vigorously. For a few minutes a terrific struggle takes place in the clear space above the river, the Cockatoo turning, dodging and screaming, while the Hawk tries to get a stranglehold. Soon the Cockatoo takes refuge on a dry branch whence, with much screaming and manifest terror, he watches his enemy, perched a few yards from him. Now the remainder of the flock rally round and all fly off in a more or less compact formation, followed at some distance by the Sparrow-Hawk, who again finds a sufficiently isolated bird and attacks. But the finish I did not see so cannot say if the Hawk got his breakfast of Cockatoo that morning.

Black Bell-Magpies (*Strepera fuliginosa*) are numerous on the river banks just now, feeding on the berries which there abound. I have never seen *Strepera* attack or attacked by a Hawk—apparently there is a truce between them and the birds of prey. If so, why?

I heard in this forest (but did not see) an undoubted Black-and-White Fantail. I have recently heard of this bird being frequently seen in various parts of Tasmania.—G. MURRAY ANDERSON, Raggal, Tasmania (February 26, 1928).