

may, I think, with a fair amount of confidence be considered as having come from the banks of the Murray:—

Polytelis anthopeplus, "Yellow King Parrot"—the skin of a bird in female plumage. This is the *Palæornis melanura* of Sturt's book, wherein the male is figured.

Cacatua roseicapilla, "Pink-breasted Cockatoo."

Neophema elegans, "Yellow Lowry."

Glossopsitta pusilla, "Small Brown Parrot."

Anthochæra chrysoptera, "Bee-Eater" (?)

I can find no trace of either *Pomatostomus temporalis* or *P. superciliosus*, which are figured by Sturt, but two specimens of *Sericornis lathamii*, male and female, appear from their make to have been skinned by the same man who did those mentioned above. A perusal of Sturt's book would lead one to think that his companion, Mr. George MacLeay, had probably a good deal to do with the birds brought back. He came of a family which had a strong bias towards natural history, and Edinburgh University Museum received in 1822-23 forty birds from a gentleman of that name—a gentleman who, I think, was Sturt's companion's father, the Colonial Secretary.

The Yellow-faced Honeyeater.—The Yellow-faced Honeyeater (*Meliphaga chrysops*) is a moderately common species inhabiting the eastern coast of Australia, and at the present time its pleasant, care-free "chirrup" is frequently heard in the forest and heath country around Sydney. I vividly recall a delightful experience with a pair of these birds that built their home among the outer foliage of a banksia tree at Gundamaian, National Park. So trustful was the hen bird that I was able to lift her from the nest gently and peer at the two diminutive, down-covered babes lying in the pendent cradle. To secure a photograph I held her in my hand, but when released she instantly darted back to her recently hatched young. Ordinarily, Yellow-faced Honeyeaters sit so low in the nest that only the bill and tail show above the rim. Obviously, it is impossible to secure a photograph when the bird is in this position.

The homes of these birds are perhaps the neatest of any of the Honeyeaters—generally, a nest is barely two inches across, and of a like depth, with the rim securely woven around a thin forked branch. The body of this finely-built, cup-shaped home is often so gauze-like that the eggs are visible through the wall of the nest, the outside of which is generally covered with small pieces of bright green moss. The two eggs of this pair of birds hatched on September 21 of last year (1929), on which day the photograph was taken.—K. A. HINDWOOD, R.A.O.U., Willoughby, N.S.W.



Yellow-faced Honeyeater being restrained from going to nest.

Photo by K. A. Hindwood, R.A.O.U.