

fore the Albatrosses gave a fine exhibition of their power of flight. Two species were seen—the White-capped (*Diomedea cauta*) and Wandering (*D. exulans*). The most of the latter were in their darker juvenile plumage, which varies in the different specimens. I have never seen these birds north of Brisbane, and they rarely go nearer the coast than three miles. We saw a flock of Diving-Petrels (*Pelecanoides urinatrix*), and Mutton-Birds (*Puffinus sphenurus*) were very plentiful.

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### Cuckoos in Tasmania.

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I HAVE had very little experience with Cuckoos or their eggs. Have occasionally found the egg of the Fan-tailed Cuckoo (*Cacomantis flabelliformis*) in nests of the Brown-rumped Tit-Warbler (*Acanthiza diemenensis*) or Long-tailed Wren-Warbler (*Malurus longicaudus*); of the Bronze-Cuckoo (*Chalcococcyx plagosus*) in nests of the Yellow-tailed Tit-Warbler (*A. chrysorrhoa*); and that of the Pallid Cuckoo (*Cuculus pallidus*) in nests of the Yellow-throated Honey-eater (*Ptilotis flavigula*). On one occasion I found the remains of a Pallid Cuckoo's egg in the nest of a Wood-Swallow (*Artamus sordidus*), whose clutch had been stolen.

My sister, on 19th September, 1910, found the nest of a pair of Striated Field-Wrens (*Calamanthus fuliginosus*) in a clump of rushes by the roadside at Conara. It contained two eggs of the *Calamanthus* and one of the Fan-tailed Cuckoo. On several occasions I have observed an adult Cuckoo giving food to a young bird of its own species, which had apparently lately left the nest. I often wonder whether Cuckoos watch over the well-being of their offspring or whether they simply give the crying fledgeling food because, after the manner of young birds, it calls to them as they pass by.

My scout, Miss Lowther, on 4th December, 1913, found a nest of the Emu-Wren (*Stipiturus malachurus*) containing one egg—that of the Fan-tailed Cuckoo. This was left for a week, and, finding that the Emu-Wrens had deserted, I took the nest and egg. The builders had evidently resented the presence of the Cuckoo's egg in the nest. Miss Lowther, on 7th October, 1914, found an Emu-Wren's nest containing two eggs of that species and one of the Fan-tailed Cuckoo. A week previously a Cuckoo had been seen examining the tussock in which the nest was built, though at that time it was not known that the Emu-Wrens were building there.

On 28th November, 1914, I found an Emu-Wren's nest containing a young Bronze Cuckoo. Two Emu-Wren's eggs had been ejected. The young Cuckoo, though only a few days old, filled the tiny nest. An adult Bronze-Cuckoo was heard near by.