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PLATE L.



UPPER— THE RUFOUS GRASS-WREN

Diaphorillas whitei

LOWER— THE DARK GRASS-WREN

D. purnelli

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"Birds of a feather."

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[PART 3.

Two Australian Grass-Wrens, Diaphorillas purnelli and D. whitei

By A. J. CAMPBELL, C.M.B.O.U., F.A.O.U., Sometime President, R.A.O.U., Box Hill, Vic.

At the recent Adelaide Conference of the R.A.O.U, a workable amount of material was examined, including specimens at the local Museum kindly placed by the authorities at the disposal of the Check-List Committee. The Committee was also fortunate in having the advice of the Hon. Ornithologist, Dr. A. M. Morgan, R.A.O.U. After inspecting the material available, including that in the collection of Capt. S. A. White, C.M.B.O.U., the Committee accepted ten species and the genus Magnamytis for D. housei and D. woodwardi.

It appeared that the fine dark variety of the "textilis" series, named D. purnelli by G. M. Mathews (A.A.R. II., p. 99), and found in the interior of the continent, was sufficiently differentiated to stand as a full species. Fig. (lower) pl. 1. For former remarks by H. L. White, C.F.A.O.U., see Emu, vol. xx., p. 190, pl. xx.

Of the "striata" series, another interior bird, D. whitei, Mathews (Bull. B.O. Club, xxv., p. 34), also appeared a good species, of which D. oweni, Mathews, and D. rufa, Campbell and Kershaw, are synonyms. Fig. (upper) pl. 1. Former remarks on these birds will be found in Emu, xviii., p. 81, pl. xv., and the description of the nest and eggs of D. whitei, by H. L. White, Esq., of "Belltrees," N.S.W., in Emu, vol. xiv., p. 157.

The photographs are from specimens in the "H. L. White Collection," National Museum, Melbourne. The birds were mounted by kind direction of the Curator, Mr. J. A. Kershaw, F.E.S.