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Tattlers in South Australia: the end of the story.—Readers may recall the claim by B. Glover and R. Schodde (*Emu* 58, pp. 88-90) to have identified Tattlers in South Australia, and the subsequent somewhat acrimonious correspondence (*Emu* 58, pp. 336-

7; 59, pp. 69-71 and p. 228) in which the observations were rejected by H. T. Condon and accepted by C. N. Austin.

In January 1961, the writer identified Tattlers near Buckland Park, Port Gawler, S.A., on three occasions within a short distance of the site of Glover and Schodde's original observation. The first occasion was on January 11 when, in company with H. J. Frith, a single bird was seen; it was observed to be appreciably smaller than the Greenshanks with which it was associating, the grey rump was very obvious in flight and the legs were bright yellow. The second observation was made on January 15 in the company of R. W. McKechnie; on this occasion two birds were seen together and it was noticed that, when disturbed, the birds perched on dead mangroves in the saltpan but soon returned to the banks thereof. On January 22, a single bird was seen and on this occasion it was noticeably more timid than when previous observations were made.

No further recording of the species was made until October 25, 1964, when, in company with R. P. Cooper, a single bird was seen on the saltpans south of St. Kilda; this bird was quite tame and was closely observed in good light and all the distinguishing features were clearly apparent and were carefully documented by R. P. Cooper. Later the same day, M. H. Waterman, who was engaged in wren-banding activities, was met, and on informing him of the Tattler sighting, he volunteered that a Tattler had been observed by G. Clarke at the mouth of the Port River on September 6, 1964.

The story reaches its climax the following evening, when at 10.45, M. H. Waterman rang the writer to say that he had caught a Tattler in his mist-net that evening and that he would like me to see it. He brought the bird, well and truly banded, to my home, and I was able to confirm all the previous day's observations and to note the length of the narial groove, which, being approximately half the bill length, confirmed the specific identification as the Grey-Tailed Tattler, *Tringa brevipes*. The only surprising feature was that the legs were dull yellow, rather than the bright yellow previously noted. Mr Waterman subsequently released the bird the same night at the place of capture, it having also been presented to H. T. Condon for his inspection. On November 7, yet another sighting of the same species was made by the writer at the Outer Harbour.

Whilst on the topic of unusual wader sightings for this State, it is worth recording that on February 5, 1961, in company with three other competent field ornithologists, a Terek Sandpiper, *Terekia cinerea*, was seen near St. Kilda and was readily identified by its upturned bill and bright red legs. Dr C. O. Fuller has informed me that he made a similar identification on the previous day, only a few miles further north.—ALAN LENDON, 163 North Terrace, Adelaide, S.A.