Date.	Name of Bird.	Across top.		Depth.		Ħ.
		Outside,	Inside,	Outside.	Inside	Height from ground.
15/11/13	Pæcilodryas cerviniventris (P. superciliosa	mm,	mm.	mm,	mm.	<u>U</u>
.3// - 3	cerviniventris)	70	50	45	30	6
15/11/13	Microca pallida (M. fascinans pallida)	55	37	30	15	19
8/11/13	Pæcilodryas cerviniventris (P. superciliosa	33	37	30	- 5	1.9
. , .	cerviniventris)	80	50	40	20	3
18/11/13	Paccilodryas cerviniventris (P. superciliosa		J-	<b>T</b>		] "
	cerviniventris)	8 r	52	50	30	9
4/11/13	Rhipidura albiscapa (?)	45	37	40	20	25
				(tail 85)		`
7/11/13	Micræca pallida (M. fascinans pallida)	52	34	25	15	7
3/12/13	Pachycephala pallida (Lewinornis rufiventris		-	_	_	
C 1 - 1 - 1	pallida)	70	60	50	40	10
6/12/13	Colluricincla brunnea (C. b. brunnea)	145	80	120	- 55	5
1/12/13	Colluricincla woodwardi	180	90	60	50	*
7/12/13	Malurus dulcis (?) (Leggeornis amabilis	_				
61-1-	dulcis)	80	45	120	90	6
6/1/14	Myzomela pectoralis (Cissomela p. pectoralis)	50	40	50	30	_
6/1/14	71/2-12	53	40	43	35	9
7/1/14	Ptilotis unicolor (Stomiopera u. unicolor)	80	55	<i>7</i> 5	-50	12
12/1/14	Malurus coronatus (Ryania melanocephala		1			
1 - / - /	cruentata)	120	50	150	50	5 †
15/1/14	Amytornis woodwardi Dioæum hirundinaceum (Austrodicæum	100	50	180	150	Ť
17/1/14		<i>~</i> -		<b>a</b> .		
19/1/14	hirundinaceum tormenti)	60	40	80	55	10
17/1/14				~ .		
	hirundinaceum tormenti)	55	45	65	50	15

\* In clefts of rock,

† In spinifex.

## Descriptions of New Australian Birds' Eggs.

By HENRY L. WHITE, R.A.O.U., BELLTREES, Scone (N.S.W.) (Published in "Bulletin No. 4" of the R.A.O.U., 16/4/14.)

Colluricincia woodwardi (Hartert). Brown-breasted Shrike-Thrush.

Mr. D. Le Souëf, R.A.O.U., described (*The Emu*, vol. viii., page 61) eggs, which are now in my collection, supposed to be those of this bird, and which were taken by Mr. H. G. Barnard, R.A.O.U., near Pine Creek, Northern Territory.

An interview with the first-named gentleman, and correspondence with the latter, convince me that an error of identification was made, and that the eggs described were most probably those of *C. brunnea*.

From several clutches of eggs, accompanied by skins of some of the parent birds, and a nest, I select the undermentioned sets for description as types of C. woodwardi.

Nest.—A cup-shaped structure, composed entirely of the reddishbrown roots of spinifex (Triodia), and usually placed in cracks or holes in sandstone cliffs, with rocks overhanging. Measurements:

—Outside diameter, 6 inches; inside diameter, 3 inches; outside

depth, 21 inches; inside depth, 11 inches.

Eggs.—Clutch, two to three, of the usual Shrike-Thrush shape; texture of shell smooth and glossy; ground colour, pure pearly-white; the markings, of brownish-black, brown, and slate-grey, are mostly large and sparingly distributed, principally about the larger end.

The eggs of this species may be readily separated from others of the same family by the lesser number and (usually) larger size of

the marks.

Measurements in inches:—No. 1 clutch, (a) 1.15 x .8, (b) 1.12 x .8, (c) 1.17 x .82; No. 2, (a) 1.14 x .81, (b) 1.14 x .8, (c) 1.05 x .75.

Locality.—Borroloola, Macarthur River, Gulf of Carpentaria, Northern Territory. Taken by H. G. Barnard, 31st December, 1913.

## Amytornis woodwardi (Hartert). White-breasted Grass-Wren.

During Mr. H. G. Barnard's recent collecting trip to the Macarthur River he was successful in securing two clutches of these long-sought-for eggs.

As will be seen from his notes to The Emu (vol. xiii., p. 188),

the quest was not a simple affair.

Curiously enough, clutch No. 1 contained an egg of the Square-tailed Cuckoo (or *Cacomantis dumetorum* of Gould), while No. 2 consisted of two addled eggs and a newly hatched bird (*Amytornis*). The full clutch would therefore appear to consist of three eggs.

Nest.—A bulky dome-shaped structure (in shape much like a Finch's), composed of the dry seed-stems of spinifex and dry stringy-bark (eucalypt) leaves, lined with soft dead leaves of spinifex, the whole structure being well bedded into the top of a

bunch of spinifex.

Eggs.—No I clutch, very full roundish ovals; No. 2, more elongated; shell close-grained, smooth and glossy; ground colour, white with faint pinkish shade, markings, scattered all over the surface, but more numerous at the larger end, being of brownish-red and mauve.

Measurements in inches:—No. I (a) .76 x .63, (b) .78 x .63; No.

 $2(a) .82 \times .6, (b) .83 \times .6.$ 

Locality.—Borroloola, Macarthur River, Gulf of Carpentaria, Northern Territory. Collected by H. G. Barnard, 15th January, 1914, and 28th January, 1914, respectively.

## Falcunculus whitel (Campbell). Yellow Shrike-Tit.

Mr. A. J. Campbell (*Emu*, vol. x., p. 167) named the bird from skins taken in North-West Australia, and has identified as the same species skins collected by Mr. H. G. Barnard on the Macarthur River, N.T. A stroke of good fortune came my way when Mr. Barnard forwarded a pair of eggs. Our Eastern species

(F. frontatus) is not easy to obtain, while the Western form (F. leucogaster) baffled me for many years; therefore I had small hope of ever securing the eggs of my namesake.

Nest.—Placed in the topmost twigs of a tall stringy-bark (eucalypt) sapling. It is deep and cup-shaped, constructed of shreds of stringy-bark held together with cobwebs; lined with very fine stringy-bark and grass. Outside measurements:—Depth, 4 inches; width, 3 inches; inside depth, 1½ inches; width, 1½ inches.

Eggs.—Clutch, two; shape round oval; texture of shell, colour, and markings similar to those of the Southern bird, but size smaller. Measurements in inches:—(a) .82 x .64, (b) .8 x .62.

A single egg, forming another clutch, appears to be of abnormal shape, and measures .87 x .6.

Locality.—Taken by H. G. Barnard at Borroloola, Macarthur River, Gulf of Carpentaria, Northern Territory, 22nd January, 1914.

Malurus coronatus (M. c. macgillivrayi, Mathews). Mauve-crowned Wren.

Although eggs of the North-West bird, Malurus coronatus, have been in my collection for years, I hesitated to describe them, being under the impression that someone had already done so. A search reveals no prior description, and of our two principal local authorities, Mr. A. J. Campbell states "Eggs undescribed," while Mr. A. J. North apparently ignores the species altogether. Why he does so is a mystery. For these reasons I feel justified in giving a description of the eggs of Mr. Mathews' new sub-species.

Along with two clutches of eggs (both of which contained an egg of the Cuckoo, Cacomantis dumetorum, Gould), Mr. H. G. Barnard forwarded a fine series of skins, the colouration of the crown of the full-plumaged male being of a distinct shade to that of the North-West form; in my opinion Mr. Mathews was justified in separating the two. See also previous remarks by Messrs. Campbell and Kershaw in Emu, vol. xii., p. 274.

Nest.—A bulky structure, composed of strips of paper-bark and blades of cane-grass, lined with fine grass-roots; the opening, at the side, near the top, has a platform of grass built out under it for a distance of about 3 inches.

Eggs.—Clutch, three; stout ovals in shape; texture of shell close-grained and without gloss. Ground colour, pinkish-white, marked all over, but principally at the larger end, with ill-defined spots and splashes of dark brownish-pink. Measurements in inches:—(a) .66 x .51, (b) .66 x .49, (c) .62 x .54.

Locality.—Collected by H. G. Barnard at Borroloola, Macarthur River, Gulf of Carpentaria, Northern Territory, 12th January, 1914.

<sup>\*</sup> Austral Avian Record, vol. ii., p. 9.