

Notes on some Birds observed at Roseworthy College, and not usual to the locality.

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Ducks.—From time to time representatives of this order alight during the course of their migrations upon one or other of the open dams or tanks, and within the past fourteen years I have secured quite a number, amongst which the following species were represented:—

Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa rogersi*).

Grey Teal (*Virago gibberifrons*).

Shoveller (*Spatula rhyncotis rhyncotis*).

Pink-eared Duck (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus assimilis*).

Wood Duck (*Chenonetta jubata*).

On one occasion, 1910, when, owing to excessive rainfall, a low lying piece of land was submerged, the Black Duck nested in the neighbourhood, and two young birds were secured before they could fly.

The Bald Coot (*Porphyrio melanotus*).—I have recorded once, in October, 1913, when a very nice skin was obtained. Grebes also are not usual in this class of country, where the only water is in isolated dams. The only ones noticed were in March of the present year, when specimens of both the Black-throated (*Tachybaptus ruficollis novae hollandiae*) and the Hoary-headed (*Poliiocephalus poliiocephalus*) were shot within a week of each other.

Occasionally the Black-tailed Native Hen (*Microtribonyx ventralis whitei*) puts in an appearance, and in 1913 nested. I failed to find the nest, but the young were seen following the mother bird. A few seasons ago these birds were very plentiful for a few weeks.

In 1912 I noticed one of the small Crakes (apparently *Porzana plumbea immaculata*), but failed to secure a specimen.

[More likely to have been *Zapornia pusilla palustris*.—Eds.]

A solitary Marsh Tern (*Hydrochelidon leucopareia fluviatilis*) was shot in September, 1913; a complete stranger to this inland locality, very poor in condition.

Of other birds usually inhabiting the neighbourhood of water may be mentioned the Sharp-tailed Stint (*Limnocinclus accuminatus*), one specimen, September, 1912; and the Black-banded Dotterel (*Elseya melanops*), which has appeared on several occasions. [A common bird inland.—Eds.]

In September, 1912, a pair of Reed Warblers came and nested in some rushes bordering a dam. Unfortunately the nest was accidentally destroyed, and the birds went away without making another.

March, 1912, was the first time I recorded the Butcher Bird (*Bulestes torquatus ethelae*). At that time two specimens were secured. Since that time two more odd ones have been seen, the last one during the past two months.

The Kingfishers have been represented, once by the Laughing Jack (*Dacelo gigas*) in the early part of this year, and by one of the smaller blue ones in 1913. Neither of these birds were destroyed.

The first skins of the Striped Honey-eater (*Plectorhyncha lanceolata neglecta*) recorded from the lower north I obtained during June, 1912. Later on another specimen was secured, and at the present time there are two which have taken up permanent residence here, and which I hope will nest this season. They come right up to the house and their cheerful song makes a most welcome note.

Other two Honey-eaters secured were the White-fronted (*Gliciphila albifrons*), October, 1912, and the Regent (*Zanthoniza phrygia tregellasi*), March, 1914, both of which were solitary specimens, and had not previously been recorded.

Only twice have I seen the Brush Wattle Bird (*Anthochaera chrysoptera intermedia*), in September, 1913, and July, 1914.

Roseworthy College,
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