

Notes on a Sea-Trip from 16th to 22nd December, 1936.

By C. E. Perryman.

16th December.—Left the Althorpe Island on the M.V. "Yandra." Weather fine and sea moderate. Off Sleaford Bay and Cape Wyles, Eyre Peninsula, I noted two Dark Southern Skuas (*Catharacta lonnbergi*) with a number of Crested Terns (*Sterna bergii*) flying around boats. During the late afternoon, on the way to Elliston, I saw a White-faced Storm-Petrel (*Pelagodroma marina*).

17th December.—Heavy sea. Mist all day until 4 p.m. Had to drift until fog cleared. No bird life of any description was seen during this day.

18th December.—At Streaky Bay. During the day numerous Silver Gulls (*Larus novae-hollandiae*), mostly first and second year birds, were about, and one immature Pacific Gull (*Gabianus pacificus*) with them. On a small cutter at anchor were seven Pied Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax varius*) and one White-breasted Cormorant (*P. fuscescens*). At the spit at the entrance of the bay were a goodly number of Cormorants and Silver Gulls. At 3.45 p.m. we arrived at Haslam, Carrawa Landing. About 300 Crested Terns with many Silver Gulls were on the western side of the jetty. I also noted five Singing Honeyeaters (*Meliphaga virescens*) among the bushes on the sandhills; these birds were no doubt fairly plentiful.

19th December.—We arrived at Fowler's Bay at daylight and stayed about two hours, but no birds were noted there. Arrived back at Smoky Bay at 3 p.m. and saw two Pied Oystercatchers (*Haematopus ostralegus*) and a White-breasted Sea-Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) on the jetty at this port.

21st December.—Left Ceduna late in the afternoon, and when about six miles from Franklin Island vast numbers of birds were noticed flying at some distance. These proved to be Mutton-Birds (*Puffinus tenuirostris*) circling around and skimming over the water all around the ship. The time was about 4 p.m., and we were sailing through them until dark.

22nd December.—Off Topgallant Island we picked Mutton-Birds up again and noted them later in the day from Liguana Island to North and South Neptunes, at which latter place we arrived just as the birds were flying on to the islands at 7.45 p.m. Then, having signalled a message to the Keepers at the Lighthouse, we sailed for Port Adelaide.