

Birds of the North and North-West of Australia.

From Skins and Notes made by the late Capt. T. H.
Bowyer-Bower.

By GREGORY M. MATHEWS, F.R.S.E., F.L.S., M.B.O.U., etc.

No. 13

186. *SETOSURA SETOSA TORMENTI*. Western Fantail.
Rhipidura setosa tormenti (Mathews), Austral. Av. Rec.,
Vol. I., p. 90, 1912. Point Torment, North-West Australia.

No. 232—♂. Length, 6.7 inches (29/8/86).

Irides, dark brown; bill, black; legs and feet, brownish black.

No. 283—♀. Length, 6.9 inches (6/9/86).

No. 289—♀. Length, 6.9 inches (7/9/86).

No. 291—♀. Length, 6.7 inches (8/9/86).

No. 482—♂. Length, 6.8 inches (31/10/86).

This male was shot from the nest where it had been sitting. The eggs have a creamy white back ground.

187. *MYIAGRA RUBECULA YORKI*. Northern Leaden Flycatcher
Myiagra rubecula yorki (Mathews), Nov. Zool., Vol. XVIII.,
p. 321, 1912. Cape York.

Nos. 22, 23—♀. (4/5/13).

Thursday Island, off Cape York, North Queensland.

188. *MYIAGRA RUBECULA BROOMEI*. Western Blue Flycatcher.
Myiagra rubecula broomei (Mathews), Austral. Av. Rec.,
Vol. I., p. 90, 1912. Napier Broome Bay, North-West Australia.

No. 61—♂. Length, 5.4 inches (29/5/86).

Bill, blackish grey; legs, black.

No. 112—♀. Length, 5.9 inches (8/6/86).

No. 237—♂. Length, 6.1 inches (29/8/86).

Irides, brown; bill, lead colour, with tips and edges of mandibles black, which colour continues in the form of a fine line from the tip for a short distance up the culmen; legs and feet, black.

No. 306—♀. Length, 6.1 inches (12/9/86).

No. 317—♀. Length, 5.9 inches (27/7/86).

No. 351—♀. Length, 6. inches (19/9/86).

No. 407—♂. Length, 5.9 inches (17/10/86).

No. 454—♀. Length, 5.8 inches (27/10/86).

Irides, brown; bill, bluish slate colour with black tips, the lower mandible has more of this colour than the upper.

No. 461—♂. Length, 6.1 inches (28/10/86).

Irides, dark brown; bill, fine bluish-lead, with tips and cutting edges black; legs and feet black.

188. *MYIAGRA LATIROSTRIS TORMENTI*. Western Broad-billed Flycatcher.

Myiagra latirostris tormenti (Mathews), Austral. Av. Rec., Vol. I., p. 91, 1912. Point Torment, North-West Australia.

No. 269—♂. Length, 6.1 inches (3/9/86).

189. *SEISURA INQUIETA NANA*. Little Flycatcher.

Seisura nana (Gould), Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. Ser. 11, Vol. VI., p. 224, 1870. North-West Australia.

No. 449—♀. Length, 7.1 inches (25/5/86).

Bill and feet black. This bird will fly to the branch of a tree, and by a quick motion of the wings remain suspended in the air, after the fashion of the kestrel, during which time it gives forth a harsh, quickly repeated note apparently with the object of shifting any insects that were in the bark, as generally after so doing it ended in the bird flying away with some insect.

No. 65—♂. (29/5/86).

Irides, black; bill, black, base of lower mandible bluish; feet and legs, black.

No. 75—♀. Length, 6.9 (1/6/86).

Irides, dark brown; upper mandible, black; lower, bluish with black tips; legs and feet, black.

No. 91—♀. Length, 7.1.

Upper mandible, black; lower, bluish white; tips, black; legs and feet, black.

No. 393—♀. Length, 7.2 (12/10/86).

191. *SYMPOSIACHRUS TRIVIRGATUS ALBIVENTRIS*. White-vented spectacled Flycatcher.

Monarcha albiventris (Gould), Proc. Zool. Soc. (Lond.), 1866, p. 217. Cape York.

No. 19—(4/5/13). Thursday Island, off Cape York.

192. *CORACINA NOVAEHOLLANDIAE SUBPALLIDA*. Western Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike.

Coracina novaehollandiae subpallida (Mathews), Nov. Zool. Vol. XVIII., p. 326, 1912. Strelly River, Mid-West Australia.

No. 170—♀. Length, 13.2 (22/6/86).

Bill and feet black.

No. 306—(22/7/86).

Bill and feet black.

- No. 355—♀. Length, 12.5 inches (2/8/86).
 No. 390—♀. Length, 12.3 inches (9/8/86).
 No. 231—♀. Length, 13.1 inches (29/8/86).
 Irides, dark brown; bill, legs, and feet, black.

195. *LALAGE TRICOLOR INDISTINCTA*. Pale-rumped Caterpillar-eater.

Lalage tricolor indistincta (Mathews), Nov. Zool., Vol. XVIII., p. 328, 1912. Wyndham, North-West Australia.

No. 47—(immature) ♂. (26/5/86).

Upper mandible and tip of lower, brown; the base of the lower, yellowish white; feet, black.

No. 82—♂. Length, 7.5 inches (2/6/86).

Irides, brown; bill, brown; the base of the lower mandible, whitish; feet, black.

No. 270—♀. Length, 7.2 inches (4/9/86).

No. 349—♂. Length, 7.2 inches (31/7/86).

No. 299—♂. Length, 7.4 inches (21/7/86).

202. *POMATOSTOMUS TEMPORALIS NIGRESCENS*. Dark Babbler

Pomatostomus temporalis nigrescens (Mathews), Nov. Zool., Vol. XVIII., p. 335, 1913. Strelly River, Mid-West Australia.

No. 149—♀. Length, 9.6 inches (19/6/86).

Irides, dark brown; bill, dark horn, lighter at base of the culmen and base of the lower mandible; legs and feet, black.

No. 153—♂. Length, 10.2 inches.

No. 155—♀. Length, 9.8 inches (19/6/86).

Irides, light yellow; bill, black; base of the culmen, bluish white, base of the lower mandible, bluish white; legs and feet, black. Common, and lives in families of twelve to fourteen. The nests are roughly made of twigs, oval in shape, the long axis placed horizontally, the entrance hole being at the side, placed about fifteen feet from the ground. The birds are very noisy, and move from one tree to another, going first to the lower branches, and then mounting by jumps or hops to the top ones, when they would fly off to another some 15 or 20 yards off.

No. 348—♂. Length, 9.6 inches (31/7/86).

No. 371—♂. Length, 9.9 inches (26/9/86).

No. 372—♂. Length, 10 inches (4/8/86).

Irides, straw yellow; bill, brown, lighter on the culmen, and yellowish white on the sides of the lower mandible, and becoming white at the base; legs and feet, dark brown.

205. CINCLORHAMPHUS CRURALIS ROGERSI. Northern Brown Song Lark.

Cinclorhamphus cruralis rogersi (Mathews), Nov. Zool., Vol. XVIII., p. 338, 1912. Derby, North-West Australia.

No. 194—♂. Length, 9.7 inches (27/6/86).

Irides, brown: This bird has a peculiar flight, and its tail appears very long in comparison to the bird as it sails quietly before going down to the long grass.

No. 298—Length, 9.2 inches (10/9/86).

Irides, olive-brown; upper mandible, light brown, lower one white, tinged with white at the tip; legs and feet brownish.

No. 359—Length, 9.8 inches (22/9/86).

No. 365—Length, 9.9 inches (3/8/86).

205. PTENOEDUS MATHEWSI SUBALISTERI. North-western Rufous Song Lark.

Cinclorhamphus mathewsi subalisteri (Mathews), Nov. Zool., Vol. XVIII., p. 339, 1912. Parry's Creek, North-West Australia.

No. 55.—Length, 7.9 inches (27/5/86).

Irides, dark brown; bill, light horn; basal half of lower mandible, whitish; legs, fleshy grey. This bird flew up to a small bush from some green grass, and it threw up its tail in a peculiar jerky manner.

No. 271—♂. Length, 7.9 inches (4/9/86).

No. 270—♂. Length, 8.1 inches (17/7/86).

No. 371—♀. Length, 6.6 inches (4/8/86).

Irides, greyish brown; upper mandible, light brown, paler on the cutting edges, and white towards the gape, lower mandible white tinged with flesh colour; tarsi and feet flesh colour, the latter shaded with light brown.

209. AUREPHTHIANURA CROCEA TUNNEYI. Orange-breasted Chat: *Epthianura crocea tunneyi* (Mathews), Nov. Zool., Vol. XVIII., p. 342, 1912. South Alligator River, Northern Territory.

No. 276—♀. Length, 4.6 inches (18/7/86).

Irides, greenish white; eyelid, brown; bill, brown, gradually shading into whitish horn colour at the basal half of lower and basal portion of the cutting edge of the upper mandible, gape white; legs and feet, greyish black, lighter on the under parts of the toes.

No. 283—♂. Length, 4.7 inches (19/7/86).

No. 284—♀. Length, 4.6 inches (19/7/86).

No. 286—♀. Length, 4.5 inches (19/7/86).

No. 288—♀. Length, 4.5 inches (19/7/86).

No. 322—♂. Length, 4.8 inches (15/9/86).

Irides, greenish white.

No. 324—♀. Length, 4.8 inches (15/9/86).

Irides, greenish white.

No. 326—♀. Length, 4.8 inches (15/9/86).

Irides, greenish white.

These birds allow one to get quite near, and then fly off to a small bush not far distant. They are always found on a kind of salt bush which grows near the lagoon in some 4 or 5 inches of water, or in the long rank grass growing out of the water. They appear to feed on insects, after which they carefully look over the small bushes.

These birds were seen flitting among some strong weedy grass growing out of the water, and appear to hang therefrom and peck insects off the water. They utter a very simple call note, but no song. Females and young are easily obtained, but males are rare. When disturbed they take safety in some grass some 50 yards from the swamp.

No. 355—♂. Length, 4.8 inches (25/9/86).

No. 356—♂. Length, 4.8 inches (25/9/86).

No. 357—♂. Length, 4.8 inches (25/9/86).

No. 366—♀. Length, 4.8 inches (25/9/86).
