

OCTOBER, 1923.

Mr. J. W. Mellor, Lockleys, reported:—The Wagtails (*Rhipidura leucophrys*) have again returned to the swinging branch of the lemon-scented pine at the back door. They started to build towards the end of last month, but something intervened and they left off for a while. On 4th October they resumed their building operations, and by the 18th the nest was completed and the first egg laid. By the 20th there were two eggs, and a third appeared a day later, and the birds since the first egg was laid started to sit continuously, the cock and hen relieving one another at intervals, and all seems to be well for the brood to hatch, although it will be late this year before they get their first family on the wing, and no chance of having three broods as in a previous season. On 4th October I noticed several common Wattle-Birds (*Anthochaera carunculata*) about, calling loudly, and uttering their usual discordant notes. The first Pallid Cuckoo (*Cuculus pallidus*) arrived at Lockleys on 16th October, this being about two months late for its appearance on the Adelaide Plains. One was noted about August at Blackwood, and later one was recorded at Hope Valley, but the bird does not seem to have come to the Adelaide Plains, keeping to the foothills and passing on. Early in the month the family of young Murray Magpies (*Grallina cyanoleuca*) at the stable-door at Lockleys came out with their parents, and sat on the boughs of the trees near by while the old birds fed them with grubs and insects. On 12th October I noted a few Tree-Martins (*Hylochelidon nigricans*) flying about the stables, catching gnats and mosquitoes. These birds, although quite numerous at Fulham, are rarely seen at Lockleys, although only a mile separates the localities. On 26th October three young Noisy Miners (*Myzantha garrula*) came from a nest in the gum-tree in front of the house, and the old birds fed them on small insects, and were quite concerned when anyone approached, calling loudly their harsh alarm notes, and even flying down and attempting to peck at one's head, in the same manner as do the Magpies when breeding. The Miners would swoop down and peck with their beaks, making a loud napping noise as they passed, as if to frighten the intruder. The most interesting note of the month was on the last day of October, when I saw two young and two old Tawny Frogmouths (*Podargus strigoides*). They were all sitting demurely on some logs and boughs beneath a tree where they had nested, quite close to the house, and where we had gone by repeatedly. The Frogmouths had remained unnoticed owing to their splendid camouflage, adapting themselves to