

Birds of the Encounter Bay District.—Additional Records

By J. B. Cleland, M.D.

In the "South Australian Ornithologist" for 1st April, 1924, Vol. VII, pp. 172-84, I gave a list of the birds known for this district. Since then, in this publication, the following additional records have been added, viz.:—

(40) *Pterodroma lessoni*, White-headed Petrel. See "S.A. Ornithologist," Vol. VIII, 1925, pp. 42-3.

(82) *Charadrius bicinctus*, Double-banded Dotterel. See "S.A. Ornithologist," Vol. VIII, 1926, p. 292.

(152) *Falco peregrinus*, Peregrine Falcon. See "S.A. Ornithologist," Vol. VII, 1924, p. 209.

(208) *Micropus pacificus*, Fork-tailed Swift. Two specimens were secured on 11th January, 1928 (see "S.A. Ornithologist," Vol. IX, 1928, p. 206). On 24th January, 1929, about 11 a.m., members of my family saw Swifts again at Encounter Bay, but in smaller numbers than in 1928. The highest temperature at the Adelaide Observatory on 23rd January was 103.8°, and on 24th January 103.4°; a cool change arrived about noon on the latter date (80°).

(224) *Petroica phoenicea*, Flame Robin. See "S.A. Ornithologist," Vol. VII, 1924, p. 209.

The following are new records:—

(20) *Ocyphaps lophotes*, Crested Pigeon. A bird like a pigeon with a crest, observed by Mr. Jos. Shannon on The Bluff in August, 1928, was almost certainly this species. Doubtless it had been blown to sea and had eventually made land here.

(63) *Chlidonias leucopareia*, Marsh Tern. Seen at the Inman mouth on 31/1/1929.

(73) *Arenaria interpres*, Turnstone (?). A single bird, about twice the size of the Red-capped Dotterel, with red legs, dark brown or blackish under the throat, and an olive speckled back, seen at the Inman mouth and along the beach at Encounter Bay on 31/1/1929, would seem to be the Turnstone.

(79) *Squatarola squatarola*, Grey Plover. On 31st January, 1929, a single bird was seen on the beach at Encounter Bay. It did not seem very shy, and allowed me to pass round it by the sandhills without being disturbed. My son then went back and secured it. It had been noted in the locality for some days. The details about it are—♀, ovary small; iris blackish; bill blackish, gape slightly orange; pharynx fleshy red; legs dark greyish olive-brown; total length $11\frac{3}{4}$ in.; span of wings $25\frac{1}{2}$ in. Two species of *Mallophaga* present; echinorhynchs in intestine; stomach contents, five small periwinkles.

(137) *Circus approximans*, Swamp-Harrier. Seen on the Waitpinga-Bald Hills road, and in the Inman Valley in January, 1929.

(175) *Polytelis anthopeplus*, Smoker Parrot. On 9th January, 1929, at Hall's Creek, some two miles north of Encounter Bay, an unusual Parrot's cry was heard, and a single bird was seen at some distance. It settled several times in the uppermost boughs of dead gumtrees, a trait not manifested by *Platyercus adalaidae*, so common in the district. The shape and colouration, as far as recognizable, seemed to indicate that the bird was a "Rock Pebbler" or "Smoker."

(194) *Melopsittacus undulatus*, Budgerygah. Several Shell-Parrots were flushed from trees in January, 1929. During the latter part of 1928 they were noted in many parts of the Adelaide district, this season being one of the occasional ones in which they migrate south.

(200) *Alcyon azurea*, Azure Kingfisher (?). On 20th January, 1929, on the Waitpinga Road, near the house of Mr. Dennis, a Kingfisher with a vivid bright blue, not greenish-blue, back, flew past which it was thought was probably this species.

(218) *Rhipidura flabellifera*, Grey Fantail. Listed as probably occurring in the district. Now definitely recorded, three birds being seen in January on the Waitpinga-Bald Hills road.

Notes on species already recorded:—

(84) *Charadrius ruficapillus*, Red-capped Dotterel. These birds from time to time, possibly from nervousness from the proximity of a stranger, raise the wings vertically above the back. Such an attitude of the wings does not precede flight.

(90) *Numenius cyanopus*, Eastern Curlew. Five were seen at Encounter Bay on 31/1/1929.

(98) *Erolia ruficollis*, Red-necked (Little) Stint. At the Inman mouth on 31/1/1929 several of these birds were present amongst the Red-capped Dotterels. In contrast with the latter, they were busily engaged in poking their bills into the sand by the water's edge.

(338) *Meliphaga penicillata*, White-plumed Honeyeater. A young ♂, found drowned, Encounter Bay, 27th January, 1929. Bill light brown, base and gape yellow; legs brown; total length 6½ in.; span of wings 9⅞ in.; yellow round the eye unusually well-marked.

The above make an addition of 14 to the original 122 species listed for the district, making a total of 136 native species.
