

SIMPSON—Notes from Oodnadatta.

Notes from Oodnadatta and District.

By H. Simpson.

The species of birds noted about Oodnadatta during the last few months were:—Diamond Doves (*Geopelia cuneata*) in large flocks; Crested Pigeons (*Ocyphaps lophotes*); Black-tailed Native-Hens (*Tribonyx ventralis*); Cormorant (sp. ?); Australian Dotterels (*Peltohyas australis*) one flock of three; Grey Teals (*Querquedula gibberifrons*); Pink-eared Ducks (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*); Australian Goshawks (*Astur fasciatus*); Wedge-tailed Eagles (*Uroaetus audax*); Brown Hawks (*Falco berigora*); Nankeen Kestrels (*F. cenchroides*); Galahs (*Kakatoe roseicapilla*) are very numerous; Cockatoo Parrots (*Leptolophus hollandicus*); Mulga Parrots (*Psephotus varius*); Port Lincoln Parrots (*Barnardius zonarius*); Budgerygahs (*Melopsittacus undulatus*); Owlet Nightjars (*Aegotheles cristata*); Red-backed Kingfishers (*Halcyon pyrrhopygius*); Bee-eaters (*Merops ornatus*); Pallid Cuckoos (*Cuculus pallidus*); Welcome Swallows (*Hirundo neoxena*); Fairy Martins (*Hylochelidon ariel*); Willie Wagtails (*Rhipidura leucophrys*); Jacky Winters (*Microeca fascians*); Red-capped Robins (*Petroica goodenovii*); Hooded Robins (*Melanodryas cucullata*); Magpie-Larks (*Grallina cyanoleuca*) nesting in the town; Crested Bellbirds (*Oreoica gutturalis*); Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrikes (*Coracina novae-hollandiae*); White-winged Trillers (*Lalage tricolor*); Quail-Thrushes (*Cinclosoma* sp.); White-browed Babblers (*Pomatostomus superciliosus*); Crimson Chats (*Epthianura tricolor*); Orange Chats (*E. aurifrons*); Blue-Wrens (*Malurus* sp.); Masked Wood-Swallows (*Artamus personatus*); White-plumed Honeyeaters (*Meliphaga pericillata*); Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters (*Acanthagenys rufogularis*); Yellow-throated Miners (*Myzantha flavigula*); Red Wattle-Birds (*Anthochaera carunculata*); Pipits (*Anthus australis*); Crows (*Corvus* sp.); Black-backed Magpies (*Gymnorhina tibicen*), some are nesting in the town.

I had several trips by rail to Abminga, 109 miles north of Oodnadatta, and noted the following species near that siding:—Diamond Doves, Crested Pigeons, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Brown Hawks, Nankeen Kestrels; Galahs, Budgerygahs, Pallid Cuckoos, Red-capped Robins—two tiny cobweb nests were in gidya (*Acacia cambagei*) shrubs; one nest contained an egg; the nests matched the bark of the gidyas so well that they

could hardly be seen a few yards away. Crested Bellbirds, Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrikes; Cinnamon Quail-Thrushes (*Cin-closoma cinnamomeum*), Masked Wood-Swallows, White-plumed Honeyeaters, Yellow-throated Miners, Chestnut-eared Finches, Crows (sp.) Hawks (sp.) No Emus (*Dromaius novae-hollandiae*) were seen on any of the journeys to and from Abminga.

I had a delightful motor-trip to Henbury Station with Mr. Hayball. The station homestead is built right on the bank of the Finke River. Large flocks of the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos (*Calyptrorhynchus banksi*) looked very pretty circling around at sunrise. Rock (Plumed) Pigeons (*Lophophaps plumifera*) were plentiful along the banks of the river and seemed rather tame, as I could get within a few yards of them before they would flush. During this 500 miles trip not an Emu or a Bustard (*Eupodotis australis*) was seen. Hawks, Parrots, Ducks and Owls were seen about the waterholes.
