

GRAY—Notes from Orroroo.

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By James T. Gray.

25th October, 1932.—I have had a Spotted Harrier (*Circus assimilis*) and a Brown Hawk (*Falco berigora*) brought in to me. Crimson Chats (*Epthianura tricolor*) are very plentiful this year again. Rufous Songlarks (*Cinclorhamphus mathewsi*), very many more than I saw last year. In a small strip of acacia scrub, only a few acres in extent, there were very many male birds quietly trilling sitting in the trees (females on nests). Nearly every tree had a bird in it. A bird seen in bushes, lignum and saltbush, on the banks of a creek near the town turned out to be a ♀ Purple-backed Wren (*Malurus assimilis*).

17th November, 1932.—Four of the Sharp-tailed Sandpipers (*Erolia acuminata*) were seen at the Irrigation Dam on 31st October. On 10th November I got a Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) ♀ at the Dam. There were two birds. This season there are few Brown Songlarks (*Cinclorhamphus cruralis*) here compared with the big number last year. Chestnut-eared Finches (*Taeniopygia castanotis*), too, are few in number, but we have a great number of White-browed Wood-Swallows (*Artamus superciliosus*) and Masked Wood-Swallows (*A. personatus*). They are nesting in trees and hedges right in the town. Two nests I pass daily are built on branches within reach from the footpath, the sitting bird being frightened off by nearly everyone passing by.