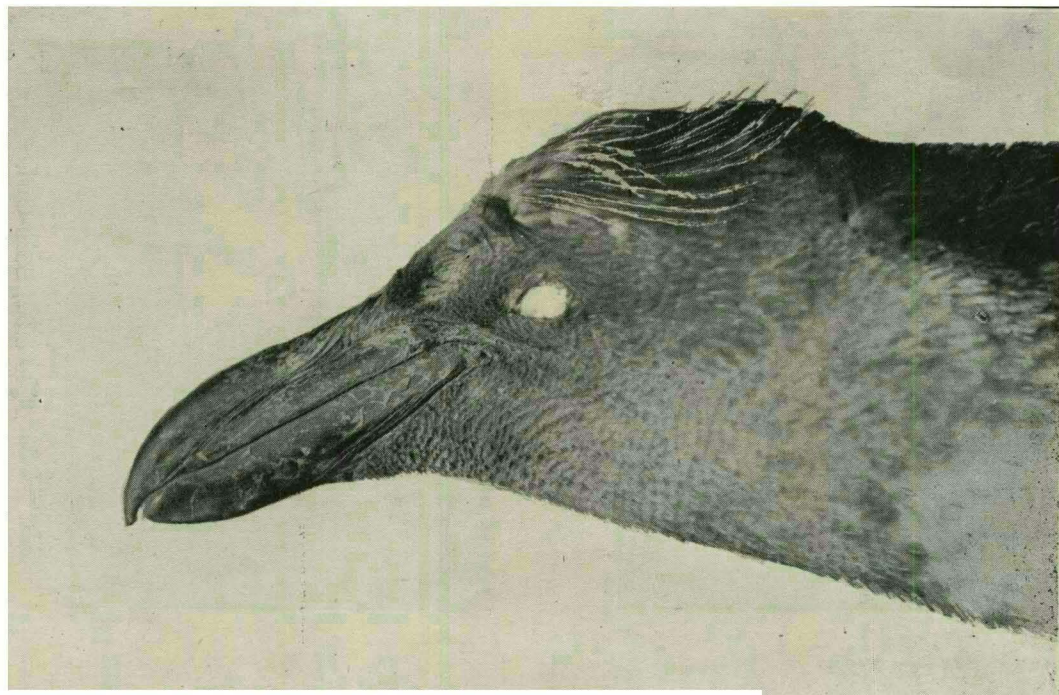

*SUTTON—The Thick-billed Penguin.**Eudyptes pachyrhynchus*, Thick-billed Penguin.

By J. Sutton.

(Plate IX.)

A bird of this species was found by a boy named Harry Ewen on the seashore between Yelki and the mouth of the Inman River, Encounter Bay. It was given to Mrs. J. B. Cleland, who sent it up to the South Australian Museum on 22nd February, 1933. It was alive when it reached the Museum, and the colours of the soft parts were then taken. The bird is an immature ♂ and is in moult. Iris light brown, a narrow ring of yellow round the pupil; bill, brown at base, light brown towards tip; gape, light rose; legs and feet, light rose; flipper, grey, margined at back with a dirty white edging; throat, front and sides of head, greyish, all the under surface back from throat, white. The back of the head, back of the neck, and the back as far as 7 cm. from the tail, as well as the upper sides, have moulted with the exception of a patch on the right shoulder, a patch at the base of each flipper, and the upper side under the right flipper. The new feathers on the moulted parts have a white base, and the distal end is blackish with a shining blue centre. Amongst these feathers white down is showing across the shoulders, and in a number of spots on the back. The whole of the under surface, the sides and front of the head, the throat and the lower sides of the body, as well as the spots mentioned above, are unmoulted. The feathers, which are unmoulted on the back and upper sides, are light brown in colour, each feather having a white base and the distal half light brown with a shining centre. These feathers are of a more downy structure than the dark blue ones that follow the moulting plumage. The crest begins at 1 cm. from the base of the culmen, and extends for about 3 cm. upwards, just beyond the eyes. The crest is



B. C. Cotton.

Eudyptes pachyrhynchus, Thick-billed Penguin.

11-16 of natural size.

Plate IX.

SUTTON—The Thick-billed Penguin.

composed of blackish and all-yellow feathers—the former have a white base, then are yellow, and lastly blackish, some of them are 2.5 cm. long; while the longest of the all-yellow ones are 4 cm. Intermingled with these feathers at the beginning of the crest is white down. The pale rose gape, which was a prominent feature in the head in life, has faded entirely in the stuffed specimen.

The first specimen in South Australia was obtained on 8th January 1914, at Cape Banks, in the South-East, by J. W. Hilton, the head lighthouse-keeper, who presented it to the Museum. On 28th August, 1928, Mr. F. E. Parsons found a bird of this species on the Robe side of Guichen Bay, but it was too decomposed to be made into a skin.

At present there are four specimens in the Museum attributed to this species. They are (1) the bird now referred to, (2) the Cape Banks specimen, (3) one labelled Otago, N.Z., (4) an exchange from Dominion Museum, Wellington, and the measurements in centimetres are given below; (5) I have added those given for this species by W. R. B. Oliver in "New Zealand Birds," 1930. It will be seen that there are great differences in the measurements. The literature on the subject of the genus and of this species is very confusing.

	1	2	3	4	5
Total length ..	69.5	52.	57.4	66.1	70
Span of flippers ..	56.5	—	—	—	—
Weight	7½ lb	—	—	—	—
Culmen	6.5	6.5	5.7	6.1	43 (? 4.3)
Flipper	19.7	18.5	18.1	21.2	16
Tail	12.5	10.8	2.	10.5	8
Tarsus	2.5	1.5	2.	2.6	4
Width of bill ..	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.5	—
Middle toe and claw ,	8.4	8.	8.3	8.8	—

The distribution given by Oliver is:—New Zealand, breeds in large colonies at the Snares (Islands south of Stewart Island) and in smaller numbers in the South-west Sounds of Otago. It has been noticed at a number of places in the North and South Islands of New Zealand, at Stewart Island, and the Chatham Islands. Iredale and Cayley in the "Emu," Vol. 25, 1923, pp. 4-5, state that it breeds also on Bounty Island, but not on Macquarie Island, whilst it has been reported from Tasmania, Lorne, V., and as far north as Ettalong, Woy Woy, N.S.W. A very interesting account of the bird that stayed at Lorne for six weeks is given by E. Brooke Nicholls, in the "Emu," Vol. 10, 1910, pp. 41-44.