

BRUMMITT—A Trip to Mannum.

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By D. W. Brummitt.

On 7th March, 1933, a trip was made to Mannum via the Gorge, Gumeracha, Birdwood, Mount Pleasant, Palmer and Mannum, returning via Palmer, Mount Torrens, Tweedvale, and back to the Gorge again. At Palmer we branched off to the south, and visited a valley about two miles south-east of Palmer. Here a nest or scrape of a Black-fronted Dotterel (*Charadrius melanops*) was found. The hen was seen to sit down in the scrape, so it was apparently about to lay in the near future. At Mannum a large number of birds was seen on the dried and drying swamp to the north of the town. This is a sanctuary. The following birds were observed and identified:—Peaceful Dove (*Geopelia placida*); Black-tailed Native-Hen (*Tribonyx ventralis*), was plentiful on the swamp, but rather wary; Dusky Moorhen (*Gallinula tenebrosa*); Bald Coot (*Porphyrio melanotus*), was also common on the swamp, but was quite tame; Little Grebe (*Podiceps ruficollis*), Hoary-headed Grebe (*Podiceps poliocephalus*), Little Black Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax ater*); Little Pied Cormorant (*Microcarbo melanoleucus*), was quite common, and a very large percentage had the breast stained chestnut, due, probably, to the mud in which they catch their food; Silver Gull (*Larus novaehollandiae*), Spur-winged Plover (*Lobibyx novaehollandiae*), Black-fronted Dotterel (*Charadrius melanops*), was seen at the creek at Palmer, as mentioned above, and also at Mannum; Australian Bustard (*Eupodotis australis*), a single specimen was seen on the edge of the swamp at Mannum. At first it tried camouflage by standing still, with beak pointing upwards, but later flew away, much to the perturbation of several dozen Black-tailed Native-Hens and Spur-winged Plovers; White Ibis (*Threskiornis molucca*), Straw-necked Ibis (*Threskiornis spinicollis*), White Egret (*Egretta alba*), White-faced Heron (*Notophox novaehollandiae*), Nankeen Night-Heron (*Nycticorax caledonicus*), Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*), Grey Teal (*Querquedula gibberifrons*), Swamp Harrier (*Circus approximans*), Australian Goshawk (*Astur fasciatus*), Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Uroaetus audax*), Brown Hawk (*Falco berigora*), Nankeen Kestrel (*Falco cenchroides*), Purple-crowned Lorikeet (*Glossopsitta porphyrocephala*), Adelaide Rosella (*Platycercus adelaidae*), Red-backed Parrot (*Psephotus haematonotus*),

Laughing Kookaburra (*Dacelo gigas*), Welcome Swallow (*Hirundo neoxena*), Australian Tree-Martin (*Hylochelidon nigricans*), Fairy Martin (*Hylochelidon ariel*), Grey Fantail (*Rhipidura flabellifera*), Willie Wagtail (*Rhipidura leucophrys*), Scarlet Robin (*Petroica multicolor*), Magpie Lark (*Grallina cyanoleuca*), White-fronted Chat (*Epthianura albifrons*), Yellow-rumped Thornbill (*Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*), an unidentified Thornbill, in almond trees at Palmer; Brown Songlark (*Cinchorhamphus cruralis*), Superb Blue-Wren (*Malurus cyaneus*), White-browed Wood-Swallow (*Artamus superciliosus*), Brown Tree-Creeper (*Climacteris picumnus*), Grey-backed Silvereye (*Zosterops halmaturina*), White-naped Honeyeater (*Melithreptus lunatus*), Yellow-winged Honeyeater (*Meliornis novae-hollandiae*), Yellow-faced Honeyeater (*Meliphaga chrysops*), Noisy Miner (*Myzantha melanocephala*), Pipit (*Anthus australis*), Zebra Finch (*Taeniopygia castanotis*), Raven (*Corvus coronoides*), White-backed Magpie (*Gymnorhina hypoleuca*).
