

The Correct Attitude for a Mounted Petrel.

In "Life Histories of New Zealand Birds" (1932), Mr. Edgar F. Stead states, on page 72, with regard to the Mottled Petrel (*Pterodroma inexpectata*):—"Petrels are poor walkers. Indeed, with the exception of the Albatrosses and Nellies*, most members of the family† find it difficult, if not quite impossible, to stand up on their feet in the same way that a Gull does. When on land, therefore, they rest with their bodies on the ground, and, when they wish to walk about, do so with a curious unsteady gait, with the shoulders high and the head and neck stretched forward and slightly downwards. The postures on which stuffed Petrels are shown in museums—standing upright, or even on one foot, with the other held daintily up to the breast—are purely fanciful, and not at all in accord with nature. Their only justification is that they show the whole plumage of the bird."

* Giant Petrel, *Macronectes giganteus*.

† Albatrosses and Petrels are in the same Order, but not in the same Family.—Eds