

TWO ADDITIONS TO THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LIST

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4A. ROYAL PENGUIN (*Eudyptes schlegeli*)

A bird taken at Encounter Bay in February, 1933 (16), and now preserved in the South Australian Museum (Reg. No. B16739). For full details see "Emu," volume 50, page 59, etc.

39A. KERGUELEN PETREL (*Pterodroma brevirostris* auctt.)

This is a uniformly dark-grey species, about the size of a Mutton Bird (*Puffinus tenuirostris*), but readily distinguished from that bird by the much shorter and very compressed bill. It has been found a number of times on Western Australian beaches after storms (14), the first occasion being in June, 1926, when Whitlock sent a specimen from Cottesloe to H. L. White. This bird was described by Campbell (1) (2), and the skin is now in the National Museum, Melbourne.

On November 2, 1948, an adult female was forwarded to the South Australian Museum from Crafers, near Mount Lofty (about 12 miles from the sea, altitude 2,384 feet), after stormy weather. It was preserved as a skin and details are: Reg. No. B23866; iris, brown; legs and feet, brownish black; bill, black; inside mouth, flesh pink. Total

length, 348 mm.; wing span, 855 (33.75 inches); wing, 264; culmen, 26; width of culmen at base, 11; tail, 105; tarsus, 32; middle toe and claw, 45; stomach contents, three sets of beaks of *Sepioteuthis australis* juv. The specimen agrees quite well with Mathews' colored plate (7) of a bird from Kerguelen, and has also been compared by Mr. W. B. Hitchcock with the skin from Cottesloe in the National Museum, Melbourne. During a recent visit to Melbourne the writer examined the skin housed in the National Museum. It agrees quite well with the specimen under notice, except that the bill is slightly longer, but of the same form, and the plumage is worn.

Campbell, following Godman (4), used the name *brevirostris* of Lesson for the original "find" at Cottesloe in 1926. Salvin (13) also used *brevirostris*, and his remarks undoubtedly apply to the Kerguelen Petrel. However, Mathews (8) (9) has since drawn attention to the fact that Lesson (6) in his original description of *brevirostris* stated that the tarsi were "yellow," and the wings and tail "deep black." Pucheran (12), who also noted this, asserted that the bill of Lesson's type was of the same shape as that of *Pterodroma macroptera* (i.e. relatively large, heavy, and wide at the gape). In the Kerguelen Petrel the short bill is much compressed at the gape and the legs and feet are brownish-black. One may conclude, therefore, that while Godman's plate and descriptions refer to the bird generally known as the Kerguelen Petrel (or Fulmar), Lesson's name *brevirostris* is not applicable to it.

I have not yet seen the original description (5), but according to Mathews (17), and Mathews and Hallstrom (11), the name *lugens* of Kuhl refers to the Kerguelen Petrel, the next oldest acceptable name being *kidderi* of Coues (3).

However, Mathews was apparently much troubled as to the correct name for the bird, and his final pronouncement in 1946 (10) was that the bird originally reported by Campbell as *Pterodroma brevirostris* really has nothing to do with the bird described by

Godman, and on which Campbell based his identification.

With characteristic alacrity Mathews applied the name "*whitlocki*" to this Western Australian bird. ("Distribution: Western Australian Seas.") No reasons were given for this surprising innovation, nor does the author state how "*whitlocki*" is supposed to differ from *lugens* (i.e., *brevirostris* auctt.). The last-named is by him listed as a visitor to Australia under the name *Lugensa lugens*, but no authority is given.

REFERENCES:

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- (6) 1831. Lesson, R. *Traite d'Ornithologie*, p. 611.
- (7) 1928. Mathews, G. M. *Birds of Norfolk and Lord Howe Is., etc.*, p. 102, plate 38.
- (8) 1935. Mathews, G. M. *Ibis*, 1935, p. 885.
- (9) 1942. Mathews, G. M. *Emu*, 41, p. 305.
- (10) 1946. Mathews, G. M. *A Working List of the Birds of Australia*, p. 8.
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- (12) 1851. Pucheran, J. *Revue at Magasin de Zoologie*, 2, 2nd ser., p. 625.
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- (14) 1948. Serventy, D. L. *Emu*, 47, p. 260.
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- (16) 1933. Sutton, J. *S.A. Orn.*, 12, p. 40, plate 9.
- (17) Mathews, G.M. *Emu*, 36, pp. 96-7.