POMATORHINE SKUA IN
ST. VINCENT'S GULF

By J. A. R. MILES

On March 20 and 28 I travelled between Adelaide and Kangaroo Island on the s.s. Karatta. On both days Arctic skuas (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) followed the ship during nearly all the trip. At least nine individuals were present, and at one time as many as six dark phase individuals were seen and at another three light phase birds. On both occasions these birds were joined for a period of about three-quarters of an hour in the southern part of St. Vincent’s Gulf by a light phase Pomatorhine skua (*Stercorarius pomarinus*). This bird was seen at distances down to 10 to 15 yards in a good light. It appeared rather larger than the Arctic skuas, and showed the central tail feathers more elongated and broad and blunt with the characteristic twist seen in the Pomatorhine skua as against the straight pointed elongated feathers found in the Arctic skua. The bird showed dark (black-brown) upper parts, while the chin and throat appeared white. There was a well-defined dark band around the lower neck. The breast and flanks were white, but the upper flanks showed a few dark tipped or barred feathers. Vent and under tail coverts and tail were black-brown. The wing coverts were black-brown with lighter primaries and secondaries, with very pale to white bases of the primaries.