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## Adelaide Rosella and Murray Magpie.

—By J. W. Mellor, Lockleys.—

A somewhat strange incident came under my notice recently which is worthy of note. I was perplexed several times at hearing the "kneedeep" call and other notes of the Murray Magpie coming from the thick foliage of a lemon scented pine near my back door. For the time being I was non-plussed, never having seen these little birds in this situation, although they are about in the more open trees such as the red gums. So I determined to make a close observation to clear the matter up, and upon carefully going near the place, what was my surprise to find no other bird than an Adelaide Rosella which was imitating the call notes of the Murray Magpie so well and truly that it needed to be watched carefully before one could believe their own eyes and ears. After "keeping an eye" on this parrot for some days, I found that it was "keeping company" with a Murray Magpie, which it would follow about from tree to tree in quite a general way, feeding about on the seed foods and making both its own call and that of its companion. There being very few Rosellas about, this bird had evidently become lonely and wanted a mate, having taken up with a bird of quite different habits, yet they seemed "good company" nevertheless.

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