

By Edwin Ashby, Blackwood.

August.

During the past week the Pallid Cuckoo (*Cuculus pallidus*) and the Fan-tailed Cuckoo (*Cacomantis flabelliformis*) were calling freely, and the Narrow-billed Bronze Cuckoo (*Chalcites basalis*) occasionally. Earlier in the month I heard the Fan-tailed Cuckoo make its spring call so commonly heard in Victoria.

During the last fortnight Blue Mountain Lorikeets (*Trichoglossus moluccanus*) which have stayed with us since the summer have been flying about wildly. I estimated 50 birds in one flock. They are searching for decayed apples in the freshly-ploughed ground in the orchard. I think they are starving, as none of the Gumtrees are in flower.

Yellow-tailed Pardalote (*Pardalotus xanthopygius*).—I noted two of these birds collecting fibre for a nest on the 16th inst. The birds were very active, and later I picked one up dead. The stomach was handed to Mr. A. M. Lea, F.E.S., of the S.A. Museum, and he advises as follows as to the contents:—Five pupae of small flies; elytra of minute beetle (? *Tachys* of Carabidae); numerous fragments of very minute insects; much fine sand grit; some fibrous material mixed up with numerous minute nematode worms. (The stomach and its contents having been dried, I could not be certain if the worms were from the fibrous plant material or were truly parastic, probably the latter.)