

The white form of this bird is noticed. I myself saw two on Macquarie Island.

DAPTION CAPENSIS, Linn. (Cape Fulmar or "Cape-Pigeon"), Pl. 80.

HALOBÆNA CÆRULEA, Gm. (Blue Petrel), Pl. 81.

PRION VITTATUS, Gm. (Brown-billed Blue Fulmar), Pl. 82.—The author points out the variations which occur in the lamellæ and the bill, making it not always possible to separate *P. vittatus* and *P. banksi*. When these birds are thrown up on the shore, as they sometimes are in great numbers, it is possible to form a series which run very much one into the other.

PRION BANKSI, Smith (Banks Blue Petrel), Pl. 83.

PRION DESOLATUS, Gm. = *P. TURTUR* (Dove-like Petrel), Pl. 84.

## Description of the Nest and Eggs of the White-bellied Thickhead (*Pachycephala lanioides*).\*

BY SID. W. JACKSON, A.O.U., CHATSWOOD, N.S.W.

*Identification*.—Collected by Mr. F. L. Whitlock for Mr. H. L. White, at Condon, North-West Australia, on 30th October, 1908.

*Nest*.—Constructed entirely of roots, very fine ones being used for the lining. Diameter of nest over all, 6 inches; egg cavity,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches across by 1 inch in depth. Roots are well fastened together, with the exception of the extreme outside portion, where they are a little loose.

*Eggs*.—Two in number, and oval in shape, the texture of the shell being fine and very glossy; colour light olive, with a moderately marked belt of umber or dark olive-brown and dull (underlying) spots on the larger ends. Measurements in inches:—(a) 1.04 x 0.73 inches; (b) 1.01 x 0.73 inches.

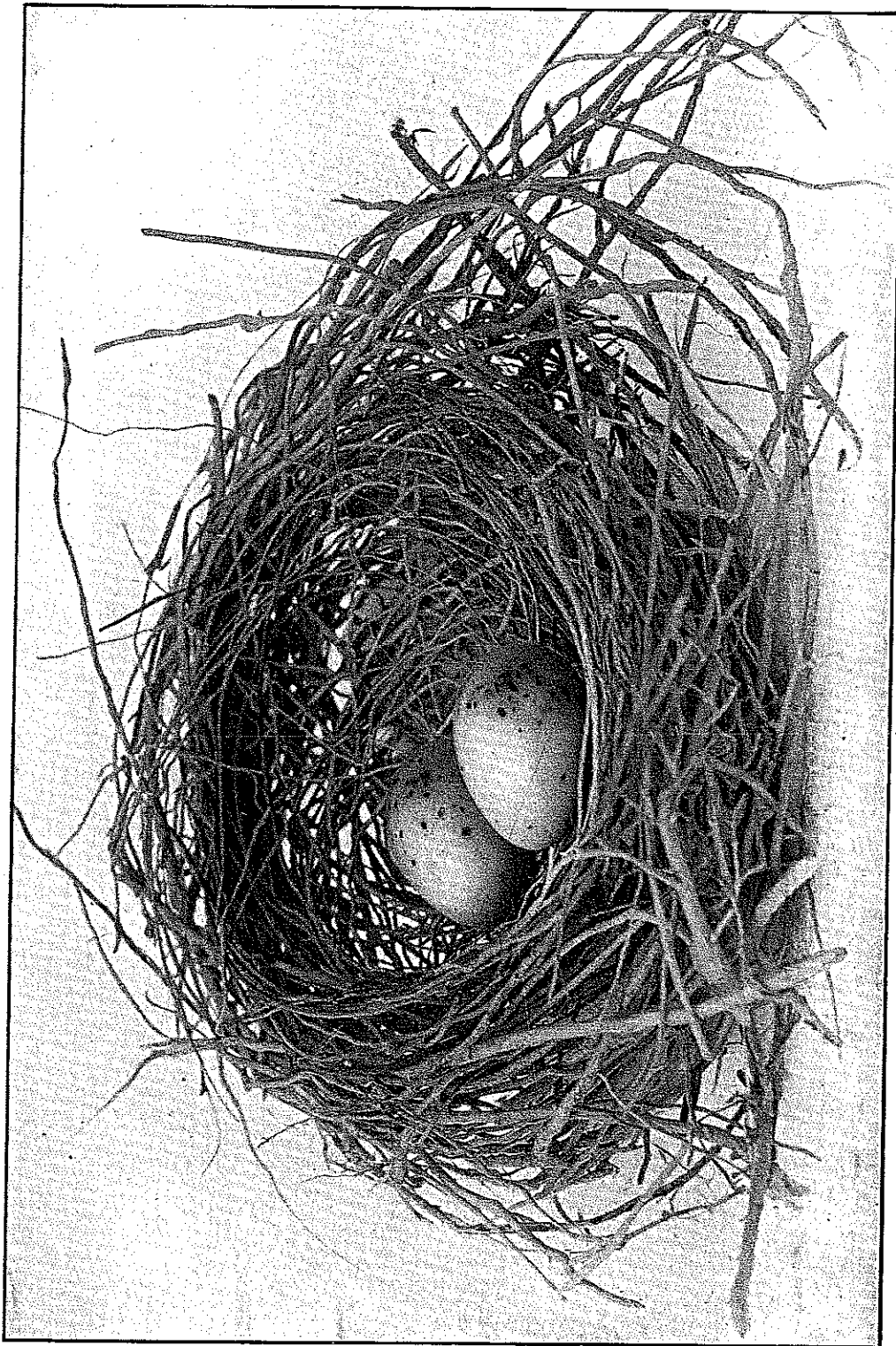
## Correspondence.

A STANDARD COLOUR-CHART.

To the Editors of "The Emu."

SIRS,—Since addressing you on the subject of a standard colour-chart in the last issue of *The Emu*, I have ascertained that our esteemed honorary member, Professor Robert Ridgway, Curator Division of Birds, United States National Museum, had published in 1886 a book called "A Nomenclature of Colours for Naturalists and Compendium of Useful Knowledge for Ornithologists." This book, of which there appears to be no copy in Australia, so far as I can ascertain, contains much of the

\* For field remarks see Whitlock, *Emu*, viii., pp. 143-145. Gould founded this species on a single male specimen. Robt. Hall described the female in 1901—*vide Vict. Nat.*, xviii., p. 30.



Nest and Eggs of White-bellied Thickhead (*Pachycephala lanioides*).  
(Nearly natural size.)

FROM A PHOTO. BY SID. W. JACKSON.

information which my letter desired should be embodied in a book of convenient size. This excellent work of Professor Ridgway should be of great assistance to a committee in arriving at a uniform standard colour-chart. An official system of nomenclature of colours for naturalists, approved internationally, is urgently needed to prevent the chaos of colour descriptions which exists in many branches of natural history at the present time. Precision of colour description will be a distinct gain to science.—Yours, &c.,

A. H. E. MATTINGLEY.

Melbourne, 4/9/09.

### Notes and Notices.

"THE EMU," VOL. I.—Mr. F. E. Howe, 39 Young-street, Albert Park (Vic.), would be glad to purchase any parts of this volume if extant and for sale.

BROINOWSKI'S "BIRDS OF AUSTRALIA."—A large and useful work on Australian birds, containing over 700 coloured illustrations, originally issued at £19, is to be sold at £4 10s. Apply to Acting Hon. Secretary A.O.U.

COLOURED FIGURE FUND.—The hon. treasurer (Mr. J. A. Ross) acknowledges with thanks the following contributions to the Coloured Figure Fund, received during the year ending 30th June, 1909 :—Dr. Angove (S.A.), 1s. 6d. ; F. L. Berney (Q.), 10s. ; Miss Brumby (Tas.), 5s. ; Mrs. Burrell (N.S.W.), £1 10s. ; H. Burrell (N.S.W.), 5s. ; Geo. Graham (Vic.), 2s. 6d. ; J. G. Gray (N.S.W.), £1 ; Col. W. V. Legge (Tas.), 7s. 6d. ; J. P. Rogers (W.A.), 1s. 6d. ; C. S. Thompson (U.S.A.), 5s. ; J. M. Thomson (Vic.), 5s. ; Thos. Tindale (Vic.), 2s. 6d. ; S. P. Townsend (Vic.), 2s. 6d. ; H. L. White (N.S.W.) (in addition to £20 for illustrating part 5, vol. viii.), £4 18s.

EGGS OF *Ninox ocellata*.—In rearranging and tabulating my oological collection, I find that typical eggs of *Ninox ocellata* do not appear to have been described. Comparing mine with the type (described by Mr. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., in *The Emu*, ii., page 86), which I have acquired, they do not agree. An undoubtedly authenticated clutch of *Ninox ocellata*, taken by Mr. F. L. Whitlock on the Coongan River, North-West Australia, 5/9/08, are white, round in form, texture inclined to be coarse, surface slightly lustrous. Measurements—(1) 1.7 x 1.42, (2) 1.67 x 1.47, (3) 1.65 x 1.4 inches. Those described by Mr. Le Souëf are smaller, more elongate in shape, and more resemble the eggs of *Strix delicatula*.—H. L. WHITE. Belltrees, Scone, N.S.W.