The eggs are different in colour from those of any other Honey-eater I have seen, and approach rather closely to those of *Piezorhynchus gouldi*, but are larger and more glossy. Dimensions in inches :—(*a*) .93 x .69, (*b*) .97 x .69.

TRICHOGLOSSUS SEPTENTRIONALIS (Northern Blue Mountain Lorikeet).—Clutch, two eggs, taken by H. G. Barnard at Lockerbie, Cape York, North Queensland, 22/10/10, from a hollow spout of a *Melaleuca* tree. Eggs placed 18 inches from entrance of spout, which was 58 feet from the ground.

Shape of eggs round oval; surface of shell rather coarse, pitted and dull. Colour white, but stained by decayed wood. Dimensions in inches :—(*a*) 1.0 x .84, (*b*) .96 x .84.

HALCYON BARNARDI, Campbell (Barnard Kingfisher).—Clutch, five eggs, taken by H. G. Barnard at Lockerbie, Cape York, North Queensland, 5/11/10, from a hollow scooped out of a termites' nest in a tree, 20 feet from the ground.

Shape of eggs, round oval; shell very fine and glossy Colour pure or pearly white. Dimensions in inches : — (*a*) .9 x .84, (*b*) .9 x .83, (*c*) .92 x .8, (*d*) .92 x .8, (*e*) .9 x .82.

Stray Feathers.

FLIGHT OF SWIFTS. — From 11 a.m. to 12 noon a flock of perhaps 1,000 Spine-tailed Swifts (*Chætura caudacuta*) were flying overhead to-day, at heights varying from a few yards to 300 yards. They immediately preceded a change in the weather to rain. Should you receive word of this flock from others, it would help to determine their line of flight and rate of progress.—A. CHAS. STONE. Prospect, *viâ* Sale. 9/2/11.

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NESTING SITE OF PARDALOTE.—In illustration of the curious position birds will sometimes select for a nesting site, I may mention two instances connected with the little Spotted Pardalote (*Pardalotus punctatus*). At Tobay, W.A., I found a tunnel driven into the sands hardly above high water mark. Indeed, the spray from only a moderately large roller would have washed right into it. The second instance was a tunnel actually driven under a sleeper of the Denmark railway. Both nests contained eggs.—F. L. WHITLOCK. Young's Siding, D.R. (W.A.)

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PETRŒCA PHŒNICEA BREEDING IN GIPPSLAND.—On the 13th of last October, when wandering along a secluded creek in the hilly district of Callignee, I observed a male Flame-breasted Robin feeding his mate. Thinking there must be a nest close at hand, I watched them. The female soon flew to a bank, where I discovered her sitting on a clutch of three eggs, which greatly

resembled those of *P. leggii*. On the 12th of December I noted other pairs with young fully fledged. These instances show plainly that not only an exceptional pair stays to breed in Gippsland, but probably numbers.—ARTHUR P. INGLE. 5/3/11.

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NEST AND EGGS OF COLLYRIOCICHLA SUPERCILIOSA (MASTERS). —*Nest.*—A stout structure, composed of strips of bark and lined with grass-stems, built in a cluster of small twigs growing from a tree in forest country. *Eggs.*—Clutch three; in shape stout ovals; surface smooth and very glossy; colour pure white, blotched and spotted all over, but more thickly at the larger end, with markings of blackish-brown and grey, the former predominating. Dimensions in inches:—(*a*) 1.06 x .79, (*b*) 1.08 x .77, (*c*) 1.06 x .79. *Identification.*—Collected by H. G. Barnard at Lockerbie, Cape York, North Queensland; skins forwarded with eggs.—H. L. WHITE. Belltrees, N.S.W.

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AMYTORNIS GIGANTURA *v.* A. MACRURA.—I have recently had the opportunity of inspecting, at Belltrees, the skins, nest, and eggs of *A. gigantura* obtained by Mr. F. L. Whitlock at Wiluna, Western Australia, on behalf of Mr. H. L. White. After a brief comparison of these skins with those of *A. macrura* which I obtained near Kalgoorlie, I have not the slightest hesitation—while not posing as an expert—in giving as my opinion that the birds are distinct. The greatest point of difference, however, is in the nests. Irrespective of the general shape and lack of the characteristic dome in Mr. Whitlock's nest—already fully referred to by him in *The Emu* (vol. ix., p. 202)—the most marked difference is in the material used in the making of the nest. In the nest of *A. gigantura* the materials used consisted chiefly of twigs of salt-bush and pieces of bark—all "heavy" material—while all the nests of *A. macrura* were composed entirely of fine, light grasses, and this in spite of the fact that the same materials are equally easily procured in both districts. — CHAS. G. GIBSON. Perth, W.A., February, 1911.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE NEST AND EGGS OF GERYGONE CINERASCENS (Sharpe).—The nest was situated in a paper-bark tree (*Melaleuca*), about 4 feet from the ground, and was suspended from a pendent twig. It was composed of fine strips of paper-bark, cowhair, and pieces of native silk, and the edges of the nest were woven on to the branch from which it hung. It was first lined with a layer of fine rootlets and stiff grass, and then a layer of cowhair and rootlets, and then some silk-like native cotton. The entrance was in the side, and had a hood over the hole. A "tail-piece," about 5 inches long, hung from the bottom of the nest. Dimensions: — Outside, $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches x $2\frac{3}{4}$ x $5\frac{1}{2}$ deep; inside, $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches x $1\frac{7}{8}$ x $2\frac{7}{8}$ deep. Taken 6th December, 1910, at Derby, North-West Australia.

The eggs are three. Ground colour white, with a zone of red, irregular-shaped spots round the larger end, and these spots also sparingly distributed over the rest of the surface. Dimensions—16.5 x 11 mm.

This clutch also contained the egg of *Chalcococcyx minutillus*, which is a lighter colour than the eggs of *C. plagosus*. The measurements are 19 x 12 mm.—GREGORY M. MATHEWS. Watford, England. 3/2/11.

From Magazines, &c.

The Outer's Book for January, 1911, contains, among articles of interest to sporting readers, a pleasantly written account of a camp-out at Clam Lakes, a charming locality in the United States, where nature is still wild and free.

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JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—We are glad to see that the New York Zoological Society is bringing out a most useful publication, entitled *Zoologica*, and it is to be heartily congratulated on the work. The whole "get-up" of the journal is excellent, and it deserves all prosperity. The articles by Mr. C. W. Beebe, both on the habits of the Hoatzin and on the tail feathers of the Motmot, are of much interest, as well as the field notes of the birds he found in North-Eastern Venezuela, and the photographs with which each article is illustrated are of value.

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THE PHILIPPINE BIRDS.—The first and second parts of the "Manual of Philippine Birds," by Richard C. MacGregor, published by the Bureau of Science, Manilla, have lately been issued. The birds mentioned in part i. that are found in Australia are *Cisticola exilis* and *Hirundo javanica*. The two numbers deal with 739 birds, fully described, 360 birds being mentioned in part ii. The numbers are well indexed, both with vernacular as well as scientific names. The books are of great value to ornithologists, and the Bureau of Science is to be congratulated on bringing out this important work.

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NEW AUSTRALIAN BIRDS.—*The Bulletin of the B.O.C.*, No. clxiii., mentions that Mr. G. M. Mathews exhibited a new sub-species of Tree-creeper which had been collected by Mr. Tom Carter, who proposed to describe it as follows:—*Climacteris obscura*.—Differs from typical examples of *C. rufa*, Gould, in being very much darker in colour, both above and below. The bill is longer and more curved, and the measurement of the wing is less, being 86 mm. In an example of *C. rufa* from Broome Hill the wing measures 93 mm. *Habitat*.—Warren River, South-West Australia.