

Notes on the Pied Bell-Magpie (*Strepera graculina*)

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When Mr. Wm. McLennan was in the Cape York Peninsula, I requested him to pay particular attention to a *Strepera* there, the eggs of which he secured.

McLennan has sent some interesting material (now in the "H. L. White Collection," National Museum, Melbourne), which tends to prove that this extreme northern bird differs from the typical species, or, say, birds from Belltrees, N.S.W., in having: (1) Darker or denser coloured plumage; (2) larger and more hooked bill; (3) greater amount of white on the wings, and its larger size, which is contrary to the rule for northern birds.

I described the eggs of this northern bird under the name *Strepera graculina robinsoni*, Mathews (see *Emu*, vol. xxi., pp. 164-5), and drew attention to the different construction of nest in *Emu*, vol. xxii., p. 116. Since I have received what I believe to be skins of *S. g. robinsoni*, taken at the type locality, which prove to be a smaller mountain form, apparently wedged in between typical southern *graculina* and the larger Cape York bird.

As the range of *S. graculina* extends from the Grampians, Western Victoria, to the Cape York Peninsula, some interesting work devolves upon students to work out the species. In the meantime, I furnish comparative dimensions, in millimetres, of typical birds, and of the two supposed northern forms. If after examination the Cape York bird is worthy sub-specific rank, I suggest the name *Strepera graculina magnirostris*.

Coen Specimens (Cape York Peninsula)

♂	Length, 520;	Culmen, 68;	Wing, 266;	Tarsus, 53
♂	.. 534;	.. 70;	.. 280;	.. 55
♀	.. 484;	.. 56;	.. 254;	.. 51

Cairns or Mountain form (Queensland)

♂	Length, 415;	Culmen, 58;	Wing, 240;	Tarsus, 51
♀	.. 432;	.. 55;	.. 230;	.. 48

Belltrees or Typical (New South Wales)

♂	Length, 496;	Culmen, 57;	Wing, 258;	Tarsus, 51
♀	.. 457;	.. 52;	.. 254;	.. 51