

but from which the Australian bird differs chiefly by its lighter colouration, the absence of dark spots on the under tail coverts, and by the very distinct and uniform-coloured (rufous) thighs (tibia).

The addition of an entirely new Hawk for Australia being an ornithological discovery of some importance, I evoked the willing aid of Mr. A. W. Milligan in my research through all the available literature on the subject, and he has concurred in my deduction that this bird has hitherto been undescribed.

While Mr. G. F. Hill, the collector, and Mr. H. L. White, who subsidized his North-Western trip, both receive all credit for the discovery, I propose for the new bird the name *Erythrotriorchis rufotibia*, or the Red-legged Goshawk. In the accompanying illustration Mr. C. C. Brittlebank has kindly drawn the bill and foot of the bird, the latter showing how exceedingly powerful and lengthened are the claws or nails.

Mr. White thoughtfully forwarded this bird to me, with many other large species, for exhibition at the Brisbane session of the R.A.O.U., but, owing to adverse circumstances, the parcel remained in Melbourne until my return. Mr. Hill's field notes regarding the bird appear on page 266 of this issue.

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## Description of a New Ephthianura.

BY EDWIN ASHBY, R.A.O.U., BLACKWOOD, S.A.

EPHTHIANURA LOVENSIS, sp. nov.

*Adult Male.* — General colour above buff-brown; lesser, median, and greater wing coverts buff-brown, with narrow dark drab centres; primaries, inner web drab, outer web edged with buff, quills reddish-brown; secondaries, centres drab, broadly margined with buff. Tail, two centre feathers dark buffish-brown margined with pale buff, others smoky-drab narrowly margined in outer web with pale buff, inner web broadly tipped with pale buff; upper tail coverts buff-brown washed with yellow; rump buff-brown. Lores deep golden-yellow; brow, cheeks, chin, eyelids, throat, and whole of under side, including under tail coverts, rich yellow; forehead, upper portion of head and neck, and auricular region buff washed with yellow, with centres of feathers drab. Under side of wings pale drab, base of feathers and down slaty-grey; under wing coverts yellow to buffish-white. Bill dark brown; feet and legs brown; iris white.

*Female.* — While the upper portion exhibits the same buffish (desert) colouration as the male, the yellow of the under side is not so rich and extensively blended with buff. In one specimen breast and sides are buff blending into yellow, abdomen rich yellow. In the other the sides of breast are buff



with the centre almost pure yellow, abdomen buff-yellow. In both specimens the lores are pale yellow. In one the eye-brow is clearly marked in pale yellow; in the other, probably a young bird, it is represented by a slight yellow wash only. Both females are only partially through moulting, the tail feathers being almost entirely young quills.

Measurements in inches:—Male. — Wing, 3; tail, 1.65; culmen, .55; tarsus, .80. Females. — (1) Total length, 5; wing, 3.05; tail, 1.68; culmen, .47; tarsus, .83. (2) Total length, 4.72; wing, 2.9; tail, 1.62; culmen, .47; tarsus, .9; middle toe, .65; hind toe (including claw), .55.

*Habitat*.—Leigh's Creek, S.A.

*Remarks*.—I am indebted to Mr. J. R. B. Love for the handsome little birds above described, received in the flesh after injecting formalin, and it is with pleasure I name the species after him, while in the vernacular it may be known as the Desert Bush-Chat. The male was obtained on the 11th of November last, and the two females a month later. There was a flock of about a score. I have provisionally referred this species to the genus *Ephthianura*, but it is of very robust form, and may, after further investigation, exhibit generic differences. On comparison with Gould's figure and description of *Ephthianura crocea*, Castelnau and Ramsay, the species herein described is distinctly larger, and, while exhibiting some similarities, is very dissimilar in general colouration, has no yellow rump, and no crescent mark on breast. Through the kindness of Mr. R. Etheridge, the skin of the male has been compared with the *Ephthianura* in the national collection in the Australian Museum, and Mr. A. J. North supports my opinion that the new bird is possibly allied to the *Ephthianura*.

## Description of the Nest and Egg of White-winged Petrel (*Œstrelata leucoptera*, Gould).

BY A. F. BASSET HULL, R.A.O.U., SYDNEY.

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*Nest*.—A depression in the ground, or a crevice amongst loose stones, lined with a small quantity of broken pieces of dead fronds of the cabbage palm.

*Egg*.—One, soft chalky-white, rounded oval; dimensions, 1.96 x 1.48 inches.

*Remarks*.—This species breeds in considerable numbers on Cabbage Tree Island, off the entrance to Port Stephens, New South Wales. This is the type locality of the species, and I believe that it has not been found elsewhere, except as an occasional straggler on the wing. The birds were found in small numbers on the 16th



Ashby, Edwin. 1911. "Description of a new Ephthianura." *The Emu : official organ of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union* 10(4), 251–252.

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