

Description of a New *Microeca* from Northern Australia.

BY A. J. CAMPBELL.

MR. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., has been good enough to hand me for description a *Microeca* from the Northern Territory, forwarded by one of his collectors, which appears to be new, differing from the other familiar brown and white species by its entirely brownish tail and by its much stouter bill. On account of the former characteristic I would suggest the name *M. brunneicauda*, and in the vernacular Brown-tailed Flycatcher.

Description.—Whole of the upper surface olive-brown; under surface (including under tail coverts) white, slightly buffy about the throat and breast. There are some light-coloured facial markings, but the skin (which is also unsexed) is too much damaged to define them. Bill, feet, and eyes dark. Dimensions in inches:—Total length, 4.5 inches; bill, .41; wing, 2.8; tail, 2.2; tarsus, .7.

A nest and egg (the latter being distinguished from those of the other known members of the genus by its lighter colouring) will be described by Mr. Le Souëf, together with other northern eggs, in this issue.

Descriptions of Birds' eggs from the Port Darwin District, Northern Australia.

BY D. LE SOUËF, C.M.Z.S., &c.

PART I.

THE eggs which form the subject of this paper have been collected for me by three different collectors, and skins of the parent birds sent to identify them by. Most have been described before, but chiefly from more southern districts, and it is interesting to compare the measurements with those of the same birds that breed in Southern Australia, for, as is well known, the further north certain birds range the smaller are their eggs.

ASTUR NOVÆ-HOLLANDIÆ, sub-species LEUCOSOMUS (Lesser White Hawk).

Cat. B. Brit. Mus., vol. i., p. 119.

The nest of this bird was found on 15th May, and it contained one fresh egg, the full clutch evidently not having been laid; it is without gloss and the inside lining green; the colour is bluish-white and sparingly marked over, except on the apex, where markings are plentiful, with rather small brown irregular spots, those under the surface being pale grey. The egg measures 1.84 x 1.40 inches.



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