

Stray Feathers.

CAPT. A. Simpson states that in the latitudes he usually steams between the Cape of Good Hope and Australia, he has noticed of late years, from whatever cause, a decrease in the number of Cape Petrels (*Daption capensis*) generally seen on that track.—A.J.C.

* * *

NEST AND EGG OF PARADISEA RAGGIANA.—The nest and egg of this beautiful bird were found in southern New Guinea last December, and were forwarded to Mr. Atlee Hunt to add to his interesting ornithological collection from New Guinea. The loosely-built nest was built in a fork of a thickly-foliaged ficus-tree, and is composed outwardly of rather coarse rootlets and vines, in which are embedded large leaves; the lining is composed of fine dark-coloured rootlets and tendrils. The measurements are:—Outside depth, 5 inches; depth of nesting depression, 2 inches; outside breadth, 7 inches; and breadth of nesting depression, 4½ inches. The egg is much elongated, and was fresh when found, only one being in the nest. Its ground colour is cream, with light reddish-brown and brownish-purple streaks and dashes of varying length, mostly starting from just below the apex of the larger end. The egg measures .94 inches by 1.70 inches.—D. LE SOUËF. Melbourne. (See Plate IV.)

* * *

THE RED WATTLE-BIRD (*Acanthochæra carunculata*).—On account of the early flowering of the various eucalypts, these birds have arrived here over a month earlier than last year. Although the main body of the "Wattles" has not yet arrived, the birds are very plentiful about the bush, and their numbers are being added to daily. It would be interesting to know how the birds learnt of the early flowering of the trees. I notice they do not confine themselves to a honey diet, but may be seen ever and anon darting after various insects. The blossoms of the iron-bark (*Eucalyptus*) trees are specially favoured by these birds. During their autumnal visits the "Wattles" are generally accompanied by a good number of Warty-faced Honey-eaters (*Meliphaga phrygia*), but these pretty birds have not, as yet, put in an appearance, though there are dozens of the smaller Honey-eaters and a few Lorikeets.—A. H. CHISHOLM. Maryborough (Vict.), 8/5/08.

* * *

SPOTTED BOWER-BIRD. — The following notes on the Spotted Bower-Bird (*Chlamydodera maculata*), culled from a letter from a bird-observer living up in the heart of Western Queensland, will be of interest. My friend writes:—"One of



1908. "Decrease in Cape Petrels." *The Emu : official organ of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union* 8(1), 37–37. <https://doi.org/10.1071/mu908037a>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/88007>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1071/mu908037a>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/379506>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.