

with your collection, and then I question if you will get it with certainty. It is quite abnormal in the plumage, lacking the pigment of all except desert forms." I have now carefully and critically examined the bird, as suggested by Mr. Hall, and cannot arrive at any other conclusion than that it is in all probability an extremely abnormal form of *P. phoenicea*. A brief description of the bird is as follows:—Upper surface, including head, sandy-buff; throat and chest a shade darker; abdomen and under tail coverts paler; tail same colour as abdomen; wings sandy-buff, edged with dirty white; major wing coverts dirty white; bill, legs, and feet pale sandy-buff. Dimensions in mm.—length 135, culmen 9, wing 76, tail 48, tarsus 19. From the evidence of the plumage the bird was not a young one.—FRANK M. LITTLER. Launceston, 26/4/09.

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AN INTERESTING CENSUS.—The following birds I noticed here yesterday in the trees along the banks of the Upper Hunter River, and within an area of 20 acres of the estate, viz.:—Warty-faced Honey-eater (*Meliphaga phrygia*), White-naped Honey-eater (*Melithreptus atricapillus*), White-plumed Honey-eater (*Ptilotis penicillata*), Blue-faced Honey-eater (*Entomyza cyanotus*), Miner (*Myzantha garrula*), Friar-Bird (*Tropidorhynchus corniculatus*), Restless Flycatcher (*Sisura inquieta*), Brown Flycatcher (*Micræca fascians*), Black-and-White Fantail (*Rhipidura tricolor*), Black-backed Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*), Butcher-Bird (*Cracticus destructor*), Swallow (*Hirundo neoxena*), Brown Tree-creeper (*Climacteris scandens*), Wood-Swallow (*Artamus tenebrosus*), Magpie-Lark (*Grallina picata*), Great Brown Kingfisher (*Dacelo gigas*), Sacred Kingfisher (*Halcyon sanctus*), Ground-Lark (*Anthus australis*), Crow (*Corvus coronoides*), Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Uroaëtus audax*), Ground-Dove (*Geopelia tranquilla*), White-shouldered Caterpillar-eater (*Lalage tricolor*), Yellow-rumped Tit (*Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*), White Cockatoo (*Cacatua galerita*), Red-rumped Parrakeet (*Psephotus hæmatonotus*), Little Lorikeet (*Glossopsittacus pusillus*), Musk Lorikeet (*Glossopsittacus concinnus*), Whiteface (*Xerophila leucopsis*), White-fronted Heron (*Notophox novæ-hollandiæ*), Spotted Pardalote (*Pardalotus punctatus*), Babbler (*Pomatorhinus frivolus*), Grey Shrike-Thrush (*Collyriocichla harmonica*), Hooded Robin (*Petræca bicolor*), Scarlet-breasted Robin (*Petræca leggii*), Spotted-sided Finch (*Staganopleura guttata*).—SID. WM. JACKSON. Belltrees, Scone (N.S.W.), 15/6/09.

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ABORIGINAL NAMES.—In connection with Mr. S. W. Jackson's interesting article, "In the Barron River Valley, N.Q." (*Emu*, viii., pp. 233–283), the following additional names, as given to the various birds, &c., by the aborigines of the Tinaroo scrub, have been kindly supplied by the author, viz.:—White-fronted Heron ("Balla-birra"), Snake-necked Darter ("Tar-curra")



White-breasted Cormorant ("Bur-oga"), Rose-crowned Fruit-Pigeon ("Men-in-gee"), Drongo ("Pie-gin-gin"), White-shafted Fantail ("Beran-gin"), Rufous Fantail ("Gin-gin-bulga"), Large-tailed Nightjar ("Dar-go"), *Acanthiza squamata* ("Mingimingi"), Barred (Swainson) Cuckoo-Shrike ("Cher-am"), Shining Starling ("War-ee-bidja"); Native Nutmeg Tree ("Coorum-bah"), large edible scrub Fig ("Bun-bah"), Giant Lawyer Vine ("Yah-bul-um"); Small Lawyer Vine, *Calamus australis* ("Boo-gul"); Large-leaved Stinging Tree ("Doong-un"), Red Cedar Tree ("Wong-garra-gar"), Kauri Pine Tree\* ("Tork-oi"), Fire ("Bur-rea"), Water ("Bonna"), Large Snails ("Cad-doo-gal"), Small Snails ("Caro-gen"), Cicada ("Core-men"), Grasshopper ("Bun-ting"), Crocodile ("Cun-yara"), Black Snake ("Cun-doi"), Carpet Snake ("Tun-gul"), Tree-climbing Kangaroo ("Map-pey," also known as "Boon-garra" at Cardwell); Bush Kangaroo ("Eur-æ"), Goanna ("Co-karra"), Porcupine ("Yar-goin"), Platypus ("Un-bah"), Large White-tailed Scrub-Rat ("Tur-gen").

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WOOD-SWALLOWS AS HONEY-EATERS.—In the last issue of *The Emu* (viii., p. 219) I contributed some observations on these birds in what was to me a new rôle—that of honey-eaters. Since then I have taken other notes on this subject, and these are appended.

Owing probably to the luxuriant flowering of the eucalypts this autumn, there has been an unusual influx of Honey-eaters about here during the past few weeks—in fact, I hardly remember a year when they have been as numerous. Lorikeets—Musk, Little, and Purple-crowned (*Glossopsittacus concinnus*, *G. pusillus*, and *G. porphyrocephalus*)—are here in abundance, and their loud screams ring out in sharp contrast to the pleasant liquid three-note call of the pretty Warty-faced Honey-eaters (*Meliphaga phrygia*), in convention assembled. All these numerous Honey-eaters proper had not been in possession of the blossoms long when I was somewhat surprised to note that their numbers had been reinforced by the arrival of a goodly number of Wood-Swallows. As stated in my last note, these birds proved but the advance guard of what were to follow, for in a few days' time the trees were swarming with Wood-Swallows, until they bade fair to outrival the Lorikeets in numbers. On the last occasion I noted members of the *Artamus* family eating honey it was the Masked and White-browed species (*A. personatus* and *A. superciliosus*) that were represented, feeding on the honey of the silky oak blossom. This time the

\* This pine is shown in *The Emu*, viii., pl. xxvi., and is known to botanists as *Agathis robusta*. The Queensland kauri is found mainly in the Cairns district.—Eds



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