

Total length, 4.45 inches ; wing, 2.88 inches ; tarsi, 0.78 inch ; hind toe (without nail), 0.4 inch ; tail, 2.1 inches ; bill from the forehead, 0.6 inch ; from gape, 0.7 inch ; from nostril, 0.35 inch ; its breadth at nostril, 0.24 inch ; width at gape, 0.4 inch.

The tail in this species is shorter in proportion than that in any other species I have met with, and the wings reach nearly to its tip.

In habits, *E. nana* resembles all others of the genus ; building a similar nest and laying eggs closely resembling those of *E. capito*, but smaller. The nest is placed in the fork of a vine or horizontal bough of a tree ; and is a remarkably neat structure ; one before me is perfectly round, open above, about 1.8 inches inside diameter ; 2.8 inches outside ; depth inside, 1.4 inches to bottom of nest outside, 1.6 inches to 2.5 inches ; it is built in the angle formed by a leaf of a species of *Calamus* and the upright cane, and supported by the branching leaflets or pinnæ ; it is composed of rootlets, narrow stripes of withered palm leaves, and skeletons of leaves, &c., and ornamented on the outside with green mosses and scales of the bark of moss grown scrub trees.

The eggs are two to three in number, of a dull greenish yellow, greenish buff, or greenish grey-brown, blotched and spotted with yellowish umber, buff, and reddish-brown, with freckles of a slaty grey tint ; the larger spots and blotches forming a zone at the thicker end. Length, 0.85 inch ; breadth, 0.56 inch.

Notes on a specimen of *Arses telescopthalmus* (Garn.), from Cape York ? *Arses kaupii* (Gould) ; and the young of *Cracticus quoyi*, Less, &c.

Having recently had an opportunity of examining a fine series of *Arses kaupii*, collected by Mr. Kendall Broadbent, in the scrubs bordering the Barron River at Trinity Bay, I thought a few notes on this hitherto rare species would be acceptable.

I find that the adult males have the chin, throat, upper part of the chest, the nape, back and sides of the neck, pure white; the adult females have a patch on the nape, and back of the neck and the throat white; the sides of the neck being black, not white as in the male; both sexes have a broad black band across the chest, which also extends over the back and shoulders; there is also a small black spot on the chin in some of the females.

The young males, after the first year, attain the plumage of the adult; during the first year the white feathers of the sides and back of the neck and throat are narrowly margined with black; and the feathers of the black chest band are margined with white.

Total length of adult male, 5 inches; wing, 3.1 inches; tail, 3 inches; tarsus, 0.85 inch; bill from forehead, 0.6 inch; from nostril, 0.36 inch; breadth at nostril, 0.2 inch.

Adult female, total length, 5.2 inches; wing, 3.05 inches; tail, 3 inches; tarsus, 0.85 inch; bill from forehead, 0.58 inch; from nostril, 0.31 inch; breadth at nostril, 0.2 inch. Bill, bluish horn color at the base, whitish at the tip; legs, bluish lead color in the young; black in the adult.

I have lately seen in Mr. Macleay's collection a specimen of *Arses telescopthalmus*, said to have been obtained at Cape York by Mr. K. Broadbent during September, 1875; this is a fine male, with the chin black; in some New Guinea specimens the black of the chin is extended on to the throat; in others, it is scarcely noticeable. I believe this is the first instance on record of this species being found on the Australian Continent—and I am glad to be able to add another species to our avifauna.*

I wish to draw attention to a very beautifully *Cracticus*, which I believe to be the young of *Cracticus quoyi*, Less.

The feathers of the head are black centred with light cinnamon brown. The remainder of the upper surface, interscapular region

* Since the above was written I have enquired of Broadbent, who informs me that he has no recollection of having obtained this bird at Cape York; on the other hand, Mr. Masters (Curator of the Macleay Museum) assures me he bought it of Broadbent, at Cape York, with other birds in 1875.

and back is light rufous brown; the feathers margined with black or blackish brown, giving the whole a strongly striated appearance; on the lower part of the back and rump, the markings are not so well defined, and the margins of the feathers are of a dull brownish tint; the upper tail-coverts are more rufous; the median ones somewhat barred, the outer series rufous; tail rufous, washed with brown on the two centre feathers; under tail and wing-coverts, and the bases of the quills rufous or rich cinnamon color; wings above brown, margined with light rufous; the throat, chest, and abdomen, light brown, washed with cinnamon of a rufous tint on the sides of the chest; bill, bluish horn color; iris brown. In size it is about the same of *C. quoyi*. Total length from base of bill, 11.5 inches; wing, 6.8 inches; tail, 5.8 inches; tarsi, 1.7 inches; bill, 2.2 inches; height at nostril, 0.75 inch; width at nostril, 0.45 inch.

The only thing in favor of this bird being a distinct species, is the fact that on six different occasions, some of our best taxidermists have collected during the whole season in districts in which *C. quoyi* is plentiful, without once having met with any bird in a similar stage of plumage.

Notes on the *Australian Cassowary*, *C. australis* (Wall).

Pl. XI.

Mr. White, of the Reed Beds, Adelaide, while passing through Sydney on his way home, last week, has kindly allowed me to examine some fine adult specimens of the Australian Cassowary which he obtained while collecting at Trinity Bay. Mr. White drew my attention to a marked peculiarity in the shape of the helmet of the males; the hinder part of the top ridge is wrinkled and bent over to the right, as if the growth on the hinder margin had been retarded while that of the front had overgrown, and caused it to be wrinkled and curved. The accompanying plate will show this peculiarity, which Mr. White informs me



Ramsay, Edward Pearson. 1878. "Notes on a specimen of *Arses telescopthalmus* (Garn.), from Cape York? *Arses kaupii* (Gould); and the young of *Cracticus quoyi*, Less, &c." *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* 2, 374–376.

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