

White-fronted Chat	<i>Ephthianura albifrons</i>
Whiteface	<i>Xerophila leucopsis</i>
Ground-Lark	<i>Anthus australis</i>
Lesser Bush-Lark	<i>Mirafra secunda</i>
Spotted-sided Finch	<i>Staganopleura guttata</i>
Crow	<i>Corvus coronoides</i>
White-browed Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus superciliosus</i>
Tawny-crowned Honey-eater	<i>Glycyphila melanops</i>
Singing Honey-eater	<i>Ptilotis sonora</i>
Wattle-cheeked Honey-eater	<i>Ptilotis cratitia</i>
Yellow-plumed Honey-eater	<i>Ptilotis ornata</i>
Spiny-cheeked Honey-eater	<i>Acanthogenys rufigularis</i>
Brown-headed Honey-eater	<i>Melithreptus brevirostris</i>
White-eye	<i>Zosterops cærulescens</i>
Black-capped Tree-runner	<i>Sittella pileata</i>
Many-coloured Parrakeet	<i>Psephotus multicolor</i>
Stone-Plover	<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>
Pied Oyster-catcher	<i>Hæmatopus longirostris</i>
Black Oyster-catcher	<i>Hæmatopus fuliginosus</i>
Spur-winged Plover	<i>Lobivanellus lobatus</i>
Hooded Dotrel	<i>Ægialitis cucullata</i>
Red-capped Dotrel	<i>Ægialitis ruficapilla</i>
Double-banded Dotrel	<i>Ochthodromus bicinctus</i>
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Ancylochilus subarquatus</i>
Little Sandpiper	<i>Pisobia ruficollis</i>
Greenshank	<i>Glottis nebularius</i>
Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
White-fronted Heron	<i>Notophoxyx novæ-hollandiæ</i>
Pacific Gull	<i>Gabianus pacificus</i>
Silver Gull	<i>Larus novæ-hollandiæ</i>
Richardson Skua	<i>Stercorarius crepidatus</i>
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>
Crested Tern	<i>Sterna bergi</i>
Short-tailed Petrel	<i>Puffinus tenuirostris</i>
White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax gouldi</i>
Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucus</i>
Gannet	<i>Sula serrator</i>

Mallee-Fowl on Kangaroo Island.

BY J. W. MELLOR, R.A.O.U., ADELAIDE.

THE work of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union is bearing fruit in more ways than one. An example is the introduction of the Mallee-Fowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) to Kangaroo Island, South Australia, where these peculiar mound-raising birds of the mainland will be safe from the fox, which is rapidly exterminating this and many other ground-living and breeding species.

The question of protecting the Mallee-Fowl was brought before the Union at its sixth congress, at Hobart, in 1906, by the writer, and the members present were of unanimous opinion that something should be done. The writer advocated the establishment of the bird on Kangaroo Island, and a recommendation to this

effect was taken back to Adelaide. The matter was heartily taken up by the South Australian Ornithological Association. Specimens were difficult to procure ; but by dint of perseverance the labours of the Association have at last been rewarded. The State Government voted a small sum for the object, and, with the aid of private subscriptions, several pairs of the birds were secured, a permit having been granted by the Government, as the species is now totally protected in South Australia. The writer took charge of them at his home at the Reedbeds, where they proved very wild and untamable, and fears were entertained for their safety ; but in due course arrangements were made with Mr. Arthur Searcy, President of the Marine Board, who allowed the birds, in charge of the writer, to be taken down to Kangaroo Island by the departmental steamer *Governor Musgrave*, which left Port Adelaide on the evening of 23rd February.

Early next morning a landing was effected in the ship's boats at Harvey's Return, a rocky and dangerous landing-place, where supplies for the Cape Borda lighthouse are put ashore. It is the only spot for scores of miles along the coast where access to the rugged, precipitous cliffs can be attained, and then only by a steep incline, by means of a winch and trucks worked by horse-power from the top of the cliffs. In rough weather landing is impossible. Happily, on the morning in question the sea was moderate, with a long running swell, making the landing very difficult ; but the experienced seamen, under the command of Captain P. Weir, drove the boat, on the crest of a billow, into a crack in the rocks, where she held fast. After spending the whole of the morning in "spying out the land" for a good locality in which to release the birds, a spot was selected about a mile from the landing and about three miles from the lighthouse, where a good pool of fresh water was available and the surroundings for miles presented much the appearance of the stunted mallee country on the mainland. With the assistance of Mr. W. O. Wood, the head lighthouse-keeper, and Mr. H. C. Tyley, second keeper, the birds were conveyed to the spot in a cart, and liberated, after a quantity of seeds of various kinds had been scattered about for them to feed upon until they found their natural provender, which consists of seeds of the wattle, insects, berries, thistle-tops, &c. The birds at once made off into the thick trees and undergrowth, and it will be interesting to learn how they fare in their new home. The light-keepers were most enthusiastic in their efforts to assist, and promised to keep a good look-out for further traces of the newcomers, and supply notes of their habits.

The writer stayed on the island until next day, and inspected the country around, which forms portion of the Cape Borda reserve, consisting of about 164 square miles, which the Government have declared a national reserve for the protection of native fauna and flora, and for an extended National Park. The various scientific and other patriotic bodies in South Australia are desirous of securing an extension of the area already granted, so as to

include permanent water, &c., and the writer's observations fully prove the necessity of enlarging the area. The land is of poor quality, rocky, and unfit for agriculture, and of very little use even for grazing. The two horses kept at the lighthouse have to be fed on chaff. Under these circumstances, the setting aside of a large area will in no way be a great loss to the Government, and, on the other hand, will mean a great national gain, the worth of which can only be rightly gauged by future generations.

Nesting of *Psephotus hæmatonotus* in Captivity.

BY MRS. A. D. HARDY, R.A.O.U., KEW

My aviary consists of an octagon, with a flight and a trap. The octagon has five glass sides, giving shelter from the southerly and westerly winds, with wire-netting on the sides facing north, and opens freely into the flight compartment, which is wire-netted both on roof and sides. Round seven sides of the octagon is a corrugated iron breastwork or skirting about 2 feet 6 inches high, and this continues round the weather side of the flight and trap. The central pole of the octagon aids to support the corrugated iron roof and wood ceiling, and to this and the angles are attached fixed and swinging perches of jarrah—hard wood, which stands a good deal of nibbling. The floor is the natural ground, with the surface well sanded.

Here are domiciled pairs of King Lories (*Aprosmictus cyanopygius*), Pale-headed Rosellas (*Platycercus pallidiceps*), Cockatoo-Parrakeets (*Calopsittacus novæ-hollandiæ*), Red-backed Parrakeets (*Psephotus hæmatonotus*), "Budgerigars" (*Melopsittacus undulatus*), Rosellas (*Platycercus eximius*), and "Blue Bonnets" (*Psephotus xanthorrhous*); but this pair, having set out to murder the others, and having succeeded to the extent of killing one "Bulla-Bulla" (*Barnardius barnardi*) and maiming another, had to be transferred to a refractory ward on the other side of the house, where they seem happy. There are also single birds of the Crimson or Pennant Parrakeet (*Platycercus elegans*), Yellow Parrakeet (*P. flaveolus*), "Port Lincoln" or Yellow-banded Parrakeet (*Barnardius zonarius*), besides a Plum-headed Parrot (*Palæornis cyanocephalus*) and a Rock-Parrot, both from the Indian region.

After the removal of the Blue Bonnets there was comparative peace. The big white house cat clambering up the wire-netted side and lying on the wire roof, which sagged with his weight, disturbed them naught, but occasional visits of a large Brown Hawk sent them in haste to the shelter of the roofed octagon, where a few of the more timid ones dashed about in great terror.

On the ground floor (and, I fear, in contravention of the *Game Act*) were five Brown Quails and two Little Doves (*Geopelia cuneata*). To better shelter the Quail from rough play of the Parrots I placed a wooden candle-box (inverted) on the sanded