

Dimensions.

Total length	...	...	100 millim.
Length of head	...	...	16 "
Width of head	...	...	11·5 "
Body	..	...	47 "
Fore limb...	...	...	22·5 "
Hind limb	...	...	27 "
Tail	...	...	37 "

Habitat.—Interior of New South Wales.

The species here described belongs to the tuberculated section of the genus, but differs in several constant characters from each of the three described forms belonging to that section; from *ciliaris* it is manifestly different in the absence of spinous tubercles on the supraciliary region, while from *strophurus* it is equally well distinguished by the presence of tubercles on the tail; its nearest ally, therefore, is *spinigerus*, whose place it would appear to take in the interior of this Colony; from that species, however, it differs in the following, among other, characters:—The snout is very much longer; the dorsal tubercles form two regular longitudinal series; there are eleven to thirteen upper and ten to twelve lower labials only; and the tail is armed with transverse rows of strong tubercles; while in *spinigerus* the snout is only a little longer than the diameter of the orbit, the tubercles are irregularly scattered over the dorsal surface, there are thirteen to fifteen upper, and as many lower labials, and the caudal tubercles are arranged in a single longitudinal series on each side of the tail and are black.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF
 "NESTS AND EGGS OF BIRDS FOUND BREEDING IN
 AUSTRALIA AND TASMANIA."

[Part II., April 1892.]

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SINCE the issue of Part I. the following new nests and eggs have been obtained and are herein described:—*Edolisoma tenuirostre*, *Turnix melanotus*, *Ptilotis frenata*, and *Polytelis alexandrae*. Descriptions of nests and eggs also appear that are not given in the Catalogue, as well as additional information on the nidification of other species. I here express my indebtedness to the col-

lectors or correspondents from whom the specimens were obtained and whose names will be found prefixed to each description.

FALCO MELANOGENYS, *Gould*. Black-cheeked Falcon.

Gould, Handbk. Bds. Austr., Vol. i., sp. 8, p. 26.

Regarding the additional information on the breeding habits of *Falco melanogenys*, the most courageous of all our Raptorial birds, I am indebted to Dr. L. Holden, of Circular Head, and Mr. E. D. Atkinson, of Table Cape, North-west Tasmania. From the former gentleman's notes kindly sent me I have extracted the following :—

“On the 10th of September, 1887, Mr. E. D. Atkinson, took two fresh eggs of this species on a ledge of cliffs between Sister's Hill and Boat Harbour.” “On the 4th of October, 1888, I found a nesting place of the Black-cheeked Falcon on the cliffs that bound Sister's Beach on the South-east, it was the same place that Mr. Atkinson obtained his nest on the 10th of September, 1887. The eggs were three in number and hard set, but could be blown, and laid on the rock without any nest, the ledge being but some ten or twelve feet from the base of the cliff, and was quite easily reached by a zigzag approach scarcely to be called a climb, the projecting rocks forming an easy stairway.” Dr. Holden visited the same place on the 26th of September, 1889, but there were no eggs. On the 30th of September, 1891, he writes as follows :—“I took a clutch of Falcon's eggs last Saturday, the 26th inst., from the same spot to an inch which I robbed in 1888. It is not bare rock where the eggs were found, there is a covering of grit and detritus. In more frequented spots these birds take care to breed in as inaccessible places as possible, and although in Tasmania the Black-cheeked Falcons are numerous, their eggs are usually unattainable.”

The above set of eggs are typical eggs of this species, they are in form rounded ovals, the isabelline ground colour of which is almost obscured by minute freckles, dots, spots, and irregular shaped blotches of deep reddish-brown ; in one instance these markings are evenly dispersed over the surface of the shell, in the others they become confluent, forming a cap on the larger end in one specimen, and on the smaller end in another. Length (A) 2·12 x 1·65 inch ; (B) 2·17 x 1·65 inch ; (C) 2·18 x 1·67 inch.

This bird usually breeds on the rocky cliffs of the coast in the vicinity of which it is more frequently found, but the late Mr. Kenric Harold Bennett obtained the eggs of this Falcon for several seasons on Mt. Manara, an isolated rocky prominence rising out of a plain in the Western District of New South Wales.

In favourable situations, with the exception of the Northern and North-eastern portions of the Continent, this species is found all over Australia.