

1882, and presented to the Museum by Mr. James Jones, of Foxton. Unfortunately it had been partly eviscerated, so that the chief characters which are relied on by Rev. Mr. Lowe (Fishes of Madeira, p. 27) for his species *L. lanta* could not be observed, viz., the absence of lingurl teeth, having six instead of seven branchiostegal rays.

Thyrsites prometheus, Webb and Berthel. Vel. *T. prometheoides*, Bleeker, Gunth. ii., 351.

NOTES ON THE NIDIFICATION OF THE BLACK COCKATOO (*Calyptorhynchus xanthonotus*).

BY ALEX. MORTON.

Read August 10th, 1896.

Through the courtesy of Mr. M. W. Harrison, I have been permitted to examine the egg of the Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus xanthonotus*), and the following interesting data has been kindly supplied to me by that gentleman. The bird was seen by Mr. Leslie Burbury on several occasions to fly from a hole in a gum tree, also by a shepherd in Mr. Burbury's employ. Both saw the bird leave the nest on the occasion of taking the eggs. The shepherd, Mr. Harrison states, was the first to discover the nesting place. On the 23rd January two eggs slightly incubated, one rather more than the other, were taken by Mr. Leslie Burbury. The height of the hole in which the eggs were deposited from the ground was about 40ft., the depth of the hole from the mouth was about 2ft. 6in. Mr. Burbury states that the nest was a slight hollow in the decayed wood, a few dried gum leaves, but this, Mr. Burbury says, may have been accidental. The finding of the egg of the Black Cockatoo in Tasmania is an extremely rare occurrence. I only know of one other specimen having been recorded in the colony, an egg taken by Mr. Wilson, of the Steppes, near the Great Lake, from the bird. This specimen unfortunately was broken, and is in the possession of Mr. C. E. Beddome, of Brown's River Road. Mr. A. L. Butler, of Hobart, has succeeded in taking an excellent photo. of the egg in the possession of Mr. Harrison. I have to thank both these gentlemen for kindly supplying me with information and also for the photographs.