

It is but natural to suppose that this great group of birds has been created for some especial purpose, and may we not infer that they have been placed in the Southern Ocean to prevent an undue increase of the myriads of mollusks and other low marine animals with which those seas abound, and upon which all the *Procellaridæ* mainly subsist?

GENUS DIOMEDEA, *Linn.*

Of this genus, which comprises among its members the largest of the Oceanic birds, three species range over the North Pacific Ocean; and six others the seas southward of the equator.

577. *Diomedea exulans*, *Linn.* Vol. VII. Pl. 38.

The weight of this species varies from seventeen to twenty pounds, and the expanse of its extended wings averages the enormous breadth of 11 feet.

578. *Diomedea brachyura*, *Temm.* Vol. VII. Pl. 39.

579. *Diomedea cauta*, *Gould* Vol. VII. Pl. 40.

580. *Diomedea culminata*, *Gould* Vol. VII. Pl. 41.

581. *Diomedea chlororhynchos*, *Lath.* Vol. VII. Pl. 42.

582. *Diomedea melanophrys*, *Temm.* Vol. VII. Pl. 43.

583. *Diomedea fuliginosa* Vol. VII. Pl. 44.

584. *Diomedea gibbosa*, *Gould*.

Diomedea gibbosa, Gould in Ann. and Mag. of Nat. Hist., vol. xiii. p. 361.

Face, ear-coverts, chin, abdomen, upper and under tail-coverts white; the remainder of the plumage very dark brown, approaching on the occiput, back of the neck and wings to black; bill yellowish horn-colour, becoming darker at the tip and at the base; feet in the dried specimen dark brown, but doubtless of a bluish grey, inclining to flesh-colour in the living bird.

The above is the description of a specimen in the collection of the Zoological Society of London, to which it was presented by F. Debell Bennett, Esq., who had procured it in the North Pacific. It differs from every other that has come under my notice in the peculiar swollen and raised form of the base of the upper mandible, which moreover advances high upon the forehead.

585. *Diomedea olivaceorhyncha*, *Gould*.

Diomedea olivaceorhyncha, Gould in Ann. and Mag. of Nat. Hist., vol. xiii. p. 361.

I propose this name for a species, examples of which are wanting to our collections, and of which a bill only has as yet come under my notice. It is in the possession of Sir Wm. Jardine, Bart., is 3 inches and $\frac{3}{8}$ ths long from the gape to the tip, of a uniform olive-green, and in form more slender and elegant than that of the other members of the genus. The locality in which it was procured is not known, but it is supposed to have been obtained in the China seas.

The last two species were not seen by me in the Australian seas, but are given in order to complete a monograph of the *Diomedæ*.

GENUS PROCELLARIA, *Linn.*

Of the fifteen species I have placed in this genus as now restricted, figures of only eight have been given.

586. *Procellaria gigantea* Vol. VII. Pl. 45.

587. *Procellaria Æquinocialis*.

588. *Procellaria conspicillata*, *Gould* Vol. VII. Pl. 46.

589. *Procellaria hasitata*, *Kuhl.* Vol. VII. Pl. 47.

590. *Procellaria Atlantica*, *Gould*.

Procellaria Atlantica, Gould in Ann. and Mag. of Nat. Hist., vol. xiii. p. 362.