

## INTRODUCTION.

exposed situations in which the nests were found, I should rather judge it to be of the Eagle kind; and that its powers are such as to render it heedless of any attempts of the natives upon its young."—Flinders' Voyage, vol. i. pp. 64 and 81.

The accumulation of so large a mass of materials is readily accounted for when we remember that the bird is in the habit of resorting to the same eyry for a long succession of years, and of annually carrying additional materials to reconstruct the nest.

I myself found and took young birds of this species from similar nests placed on the points of rocks and promontories of the islands in Bass's Straits.

Genus HALIASTUR, *Selby*.

The range of the members of this genus extends over Australia and all the islands to India.

4. *Haliastur leucosternus*, *Gould* . . . . . Vol. I. Pl. 4.  
*Falco Ponticerianus*, Shaw, Nat. Misc., pl. 389.

*Haliaëtus (Ictinoëtus) leucosternon*, Kaup, Isis, 1847, p. 277.

Confined, so far as I am aware, to Australia, and forming a beautiful representative of the *Haliastur Ponticerianus* of India.

5. *Haliastur sphenurus* . . . . . Vol. I. Pl. 5.

*Milvus sphenurus*, Swains. Class. of Birds, vol. ii. p. 211.

*Haliaëtus (Ictinoëtus) canorus*, Kaup, Isis, 1847, p. 277.

Inhabits all parts of Australia yet visited by travellers, even the Depôt in the interior.

Genus PANDION, *Sav.*

Of the genus *Pandion* four species are now known; one inhabiting America, another Europe and Asia, a third the Indian Islands, and the fourth Australia.

6. *Pandion leucocephalus*, *Gould* . . . . . Vol. I. Pl. 6.  
*Pandion Gouldii*, Kaup, Isis, 1847, p. 270.—List of Birds in Brit. Mus. Coll., Part I. 2nd edit. p. 22.

This species of *Pandion* performs precisely the same office in Australia that the *P. haliaeetus* does in Europe and the *P. Carolinensis* in America; to both of which species it is very nearly allied.

Genus FALCO, *Linn.*

As they are the most typical of all the Hawks, so are the members of the genus *Falco* the most universally dispersed over the face of the globe; and I question whether the law of representation is in any case more beautifully and clearly shown than by the members of the present group.

7. *Falco hypoleucus*, *Gould* . . . . . Vol. I. Pl. 7.

Up to the present time only four examples of this fine Falcon have been procured; it is a species admirably adapted for the sport of Falconry, and is a beautiful representative of the *Falco Gyrfalco* of Europe. Its native habitat is the interior of the southern and western portions of Australia.

8. *Falco melanogenys*, *Gould* . . . . . Vol. I. Pl. 8.

*Falco macropus*, Swains. Anim. in Menag., p. 341.

— *melanogenys*, Kaup, Isis, 1847, p. 75.

India, Europe, and North America on the one hand, and Cape Horn, the Cape of Good Hope and Australia on the other, are all inhabited by Falcons so nearly allied to each other as to favour the opinion that they are merely varieties of each other; but I agree with the Prince of Canino and Professor Kaup in considering them to be distinct and representatives of each other in the respective countries they inhabit. It will doubtless be found that the habits