

No. 144. Female. Raine Island.

No. 482. Male. Admiralty Island.

Eyes black; flesh of throat red. Stomach contained fish. I shot this bird from the pinnacle while with several others. It was hovering over a shoal of fish. A Noddy and Black-headed Terns, and a Puffin or Petrel, larger than a Cape-Pigeon, were also fishing.]

The series before us, so far as it goes, tends to show that this smaller Frigate-bird may remain distinct from its larger brother, although we are not aware of any other obvious points of difference than those of size, and, as has been pointed out to us by Captain Legge, of a white patch on the flanks, which appears only on the smaller species.

The specimens measure as follows:—

	Wing.	Bill from Gape.
	Inches.	Inches.
<i>Fregata aquila</i> , a,	23·5	5·0
" " jr., b,	23·0	4·5
" " jr., c,	22·0	4·4
" <i>minor</i> , ♂, 133,	20·5	3·9
" " ♀, 134,	20·5	4·0
" " ♀, 144,	20·5	4·0
" " ♂, 482,	20·5	4·0

The bill of *Fregata minor* is also narrower at the base, and more feeble.

[At Raine Island there was a rookery of this Frigate-bird in the centre, of about thirty or forty nests. There were eggs in the nests; and all the young, but one or two, were perched on the branches of a low shrub; these had red heads, and looked very like vultures at first sight. The nests were formed of sticks laid on the tops of small bushes, about one foot from the ground.]

2. PHAËTHONIDÆ.

3. *Phaëthon æthereus*, Linn.

Phaëthon æthereus, Sch. et Salv., Proc. Zool. Soc., 1878, p. 651.

[a. Ascension Island, March 1876.

No. 143. Female (young). Raine Island.

Eyes black; legs white; claws black; bill dark brown colour. The only one seen on the Island.