

vittata and not to *Sterna hirundinacea*, it comes nearer to the latter species than any other specimen yet examined. However, its relatively smaller size, grey colour, and the characteristic shortness of the foot and claws show distinctly that the bird in question is *Sterna vittata*; and although it has a rather unusually long bill, yet there is an absence of the long curve characteristic of the American bird. It may be remarked that the bill in individuals of the present species seems to be peculiarly brittle and friable, which will account for the worn and blunted appearance often to be observed in the anterior portions of the mandibles.

There are the remains of an egg, labelled as taken at Heard Island, February 1874, which evidently belongs to either *Sterna virgata* or *Sterna vittata*; I incline to attribute it to the former, owing to its size and dull appearance.

4. *Sterna hirundinacea*, Lesson.

Sterna hirundinacea, Lesson, Tr. d'Orn., p. 631, 1831; Saunders, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1876, p. 647; et 1877, p. 796.

[No. 652, ♂. Messier Channel, Straits of Magellan, 4th January 1876. Eyes black; bill and legs vermilion.

No. 723, ♂.	}	Elizabeth Island, Straits of Magellan, 18th and 19th January 1876.
No. 724, ♀.		Eyes black; bill and legs red. Stomach had fish. A number of eggs were preserved, there being a large "rookery" at one of the low points of this island.]

Three fine and fully adult specimens of this well-known South American species. Sixteen eggs from this locality are naturally rather larger than the type of those of *Sterna fluviatilis* or *Sterna macrura*; but otherwise they merely exhibit the same variations in markings.

5. *Sterna bergii*, Licht.

Sterna bergii, Licht., Verz. Doubl., p. 80, 1823; Saunders, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1876, p. 657, et 1877, p. 796.

[No. 77, ♂. Levuka, Fiji, 30th July 1874. Eyes black; feet black, soles brown.]
Nearly adult.

[No. 231, ♀. Dobbo, Arrou Islands, 16th and 17th September 1874. Eyes black; feet black; bill light yellow.]

A bird of the year.

[No. 345, ♂. Samboangan, Philippine Islands, 24th October 1874. Eyes black.]

Nearly adult, but in winter plumage, the head being merely striated and not black.

[No. 486, ♂. Nares Harbour, Admiralty Islands, 3d to 10th March 1875. Eyes black.]