Count T. Salvadori on Daphnæositta miranda.

List of the Birds observed on Dolgoi Island, July 20th, 1897.

1. Anthus cervinus. 11. Strepsila interpres.
6. Harelda glacialis. 16. Larus glaucus.
7. Somateria spectabilis. 17. —— affinis ?
10. Eudromias morinellus. 20. —— septentrionalis.

List of the Birds observed at Habarona, July 14th and 18th, 1897.

2. Anthus cervinus. 15. Tringa alpina.
3. Linota linaria. 16. —— minutu.
5. Plectrophenax nivalis. 18. —— striata.
8. Faleo aonalon. 21. —— affinis ?
11. Mergus serrator. 24. Columbus arcticus ?
12. Ægialitis hiaticula. 25. —— septentrionalis.

XVII.—Note on Daphnæositta miranda, De Vis.

By T. Salvadori, C.M.Z.S.

(Plate IV.)

Mr. Sclater has kindly sent me for inspection a female specimen of the curious new form Daphnæositta miranda of New Guinea (Ibis, 1897, p. 380) which he has received from Mr. De Vis, and has requested me to write a few notes on it, which I have great pleasure in doing.

This bird, of which the present specimen was obtained by Signor Giulianetti on Mount Scratchley, at an altitude of 12,000 feet, on the 1st of October, 1896, belongs to the sub-
family Sittinææ, but is very remarkable, especially as, in its
colouring, it is quite aberrant from its kindred. Mr. De Vis
has made it the type of a new genus, and quite rightly so.
There can be no possible doubt, however, as to the bird being
allied to the Nuthatches (Sitta) ; it comes, in fact, very near
the Australian genus Sittella. From this it differs principally
in the bill, which is much shorter than the head, and has
the culmen straight, and not curved upward, as in Sittella.
The wing is very like that of the members of this genus,
and has, like them, a light (white) patch about the middle
of the inner web of the quills; but the tail is rather differently
shaped, being graduated*, and not square. The feet do not
show any important features, being quite Sittine; their
colour, in De Vis's description of the genus, is stated to be
crimson, but in the description of the species (p. 381), and
on the original label of Signor Giulianetti, the feet are
described as yellow. The whole bird appears to be more
strongly built than the Sittelle. The plumage is peculiar,
not only in colouring, but also in being particularly soft.
The male bird has not yet been described, but possibly it
will prove to be more brightly coloured than the female,
especially about the face.

XVIII.—On the Habits of the Mutton-bird of Bass Strait,
Australia (Puffinus tenuirostris). By the Rt. Rev. H. H.
Montgomery, D.D., Bishop of Tasmania.

For many years, as episcopal duties have called me to the
Furneaux Islands in Bass Strait, I have given attention
to the habits of what is locally called the "Mutton-bird."
This Petrel is now adequately protected by an Act of the
Tasmanian Parliament; and although some 400,000 young
birds are salted down for consumption in a good year, chiefly
by half-castes, yet there is no chance of the extinction of this
species under present conditions. The day may come, indeed,

* By a misprint in the original description (l.c. p. 380) the tail is said
to be obtusely "granulated," instead of "graduated."