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Grey-backed storm petrel: pp 78-79.

Grey-backed Storm Petrel (Reoreo) *Garrodia nereis* (Gould 1841), Native
6/1/1770 Far North

Banks collected *Procellaria longipes* on 6th and 7th January 1770 off the Far North coast (Beaglehole 1963). These were Grey-backed Storm Petrels (Mathews 1912). Oliver also stated a Grey-backed Storm Petrel was taken off Kaikoura on Cook's first voyage. Presumably this is the bird that Banks wrote about when he collected *Procellaria saltatrix* on the 14th February 1770 (off Kaikoura) (Beaglehole 1963). This is also referred to as Grey-backed Storm Petrel by Mathews (1912). This specimen was described by Solander, but the description was not published until 1912, when Mathews included it in his Birds of Australia.

G.R. Gray received a specimen in 1862 from Governor Grey, and this appears to be the first widely-known record. G.R. Gray did not mention it in his 1862 paper, confining this species to "Phillip's, Norfolk and Nepean Islands", where it does not occur. I can find no further reference to this record. Gould wrote that it was "plentiful between Sydney and New Zealand April 1840", so it may have been recorded by him in New Zealand seas. Hutton (1868) recorded several in the Hauraki Gulf in summer 1867/68. Grey-backed Storm Petrel is very rare at sea this far north at any time of the year, so perhaps these were another species such as White-faced Storm Petrel? (although Miskelly (2006a) recently recorded over 100 in September 1981. He regarded this as "unprecedented").

Henry Travers (Travers & Travers 1872) recorded them at the Chatham Islands in 1871 (a specimen later verified by Finsch). Pending further information, Travers's record in 1871 is treated as the first record. Buller (1888) mentioned specimens from Otago and Cape Campbell. There is a specimen in the Otago Museum collected by A. Reischek from Cook Strait dated 1860 (Peter Schweigman pers. comm.). Reischek did not arrive in New Zealand until 1877, so it appears to be wrongly labelled.