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Kermadec petrel: p 61.

**Kermadec Petrel** *Pterodroma neglecta neglecta* (Schlegel 1863), Native  
1863 Meyer Islets, Kermadec Islands  
17/1/1888 Norfolk Island; also subfossil

It is probably the “brown gull” recorded in 1788 on Raoul Island. This is another species that was not formally described until some years after its discovery. According to Oliver (1955), John Macgillivray, the naturalist on *H.M.S. Herald*, collected this species in July 1854. However, Marchant & Higgins (1990) stated that Verreaux, not Macgillivray, collected three specimens on Raoul Island. Ostende et al. (1997) stated that Macgillivray collected the specimens on the Meyer Islets. Bourne & David (2008) say that Macgillivray saw summer-breeding “muttonbirds” on Raoul Island, and remarks that nine winter-breeders from Meyer Island were similar.

Macgillivray appeared to be aware that that his petrel might be new, but had had his notes confiscated as a result of falling out with Denham, the ship's captain (Bourne & David 2008). He also did not know what had happened to his specimens, and may have been unsure of their identity anyway. The specimens were labelled as *Aestrelata diabolica* (a junior synonym of Black-capped Petrel *P. hasitata* (Kuhl 1820), and were overlooked until Schlegel described them in 1863. *Rhantistes raoulensis* Bonaparte 1856 is a nomen nudum, and refers to Macgillivray's specimens of *P. neglecta* (Bourne & David 2008).

Hutton also described *P. leucophrys* and *P. phillipi* in 1893, which are synonyms. Buller considered this species to be *Oestrelata mollis* as late as 1893. The polymorphic nature and distinct breeding seasons of the Meyer Islands and Raoul Island populations may be indicative of distinct taxa. Cheeseman (1890) stated that the “Kermadec Muttonbird” bred in summer on Raoul Island, whilst the “Winter Muttonbird” bred in winter on the Meyer Islets. The first mainland record was one found by Falla (1933) on Muriwai Beach on 29/11/1932.

Holdaway & Anderson (2001) mention a record of two Kermadec Petrels from Norfolk Island taken in the 1880s by Dr Metcalfe. One was collected on 17/1/1888 by Metcalfe, and painted by Lodge (Fleming 1983). These were initially referred to *P. solandri* by North (1890), and then to *P. neglecta* by Bassett-Hull (1910) and Mathews (1912).

*Procellaria grisea* Vieillot 1823, was named from Norfolk Island. Penhallurick (2008) questioned whether it was referable to *P. neglecta*.