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King penguin p. 29.

King Penguin *Aptenodytes patagonicus* Miller 1788, Native
1834 Macquarie Island
December 1976 Ross Sea (Ainley et al 1984)

G. Bennett collected specimens from Macquarie Island in 1834, and took them to England (Oliver 1955). Oliver misprinted the date as 1815, probably from Hamilton's (1894) account. "Near the heap was a stretch of shifting sand, which revealed evidence that this was the site of the large rookery of king penguins seen here by Bennett in 1815, since entirely destroyed" (Hamilton 1894). Sealers were aware of its existence early on, and ruthlessly slaughtered it for oil. Large colonies were thereby eliminated between 1810 - 1918. J.B. Ellman (1861) included the King Penguin in his list of New Zealand birds, but Buller omitted it in 1873. Ellman said he had seen this species off Stewart Island, and believed it bred there (most likely the Fiordland Crested Penguin, which was known as the "King Penguin" in the colony (Hutton 1871). Buller (1869) recorded it in 1868 as *Aptenodytes pennanti*, but without details.

Scott saw it on Macquarie Island in 1881, and re-established the species on the New Zealand list.

Buller (1888) had an undated specimen from Stewart Island, and one was also recorded at Moeraki, Otago in July 1878. One was seen at Stewart Island on 10/2/1983. The most recent mainland record is of one on a Westland beach during January-February 2005.