Title: The Game-birds & Water-fowl Of South Africa

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THE
GAME-BIRDS AND WATER-FOWL
OF
SOUTH AFRICA
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BY
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WITH COLOURED PLATES
By SERGEANT C. G. DAVIES (Cape Mounted Riflemen), M.B.O.U., M.S.A.O.U.

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PREFACE.

In this volume I have endeavoured to give descriptions of the Game-Birds and Water-Fowl found within South African limits—that is to say, south of a line drawn through the Zambesi River from east to west.

I trust that in all cases the illustrations will be sufficient to enable the sportsman readily to identify any Game-Bird he may shoot. It must be remembered, however, that immature birds often differ very much from those in adult plumage; I regret it was not possible to figure the birds in every stage.

With regard to the habits of many species, I am greatly indebted to Serg. C. G. Davies, Cape Mounted Riflemen, whose excellent field-work has been of the greatest help to me. All notes referring to Pondoland and Griqualand have been communicated to me by him.

My thanks are also due to Dr. J. W. B. Gunning, Director of the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, and to Mr. Péringuey, Director of the Cape Town Museum, for the loan of many skins otherwise almost unobtainable, which were used by Sergeant Davies to illustrate the work.

Much valuable information has been obtained from the pages of the Journal of the South African Ornithologists' Union, whose energetic Editor (Mr. A. K. Haagner) has done so much to further the study of ornithology in South Africa.

Without their ready assistance, so willingly given, the labour of bringing out this work would have been more than doubled.
PREFACE.

For the facts regarding general distribution of the birds and the colour and dimensions of their eggs, I am in most cases indebted to Mr. W. L. Selater's valuable work on the Fauna of South Africa, but a certain amount of information was also obtained from Layard and Sharpe's Birds of South Africa.

To Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant my thanks are also due for notes on various species, and for kindly looking over some of my proofs.

I should also like to express my thanks to Mr. H. F. Witherby for his practical help on many occasions.

B. R. H.