

father, he is not nearly so strong as he was," and my old friend passed out of my sight on earth forever. A few more years were to pass swiftly by, and the summons came to cease all earthly labor. The energetic toiler was still arrayed in the panoply of work, which he had carried so well over such a long series of years, his faith had not abated, nor his courage failed, and he still grasped in his aged hands, his familiar weapons the pen and the book, which he had wielded so long and so effectively. But the time had come when he was to "cease from his labors, and his works were to follow him."

The day was drawing to its close in the beautiful month of June, and peace like a blessing from another world, seemed to hover over the land, and Nature rejoiced in her smiling fields, and the opened buds and blossoms; the sun was slowly sinking to its rest behind the western hills, flooding the fleecy clouds floating in the blue vault above with crimson and with gold; from the east, the shadow of the coming night was creeping slowly, slowly onward, casting a pall over the valleys; the evening breeze with its soft breath was playing among the leaves, and calling forth the perfume of the flowers, and the nightingales, in their own fair land, chief minstrels of the feathered choir, had sounded in one great burst of melody, the opening chords of the vesper hymn,—when there came to our friend, waiting, ever waiting, the murmur of softly moving wings heralding the presence of the "Beautiful Angel," who gently led him out of his earthly mansion, just across the threshold, to the bright land beyond.

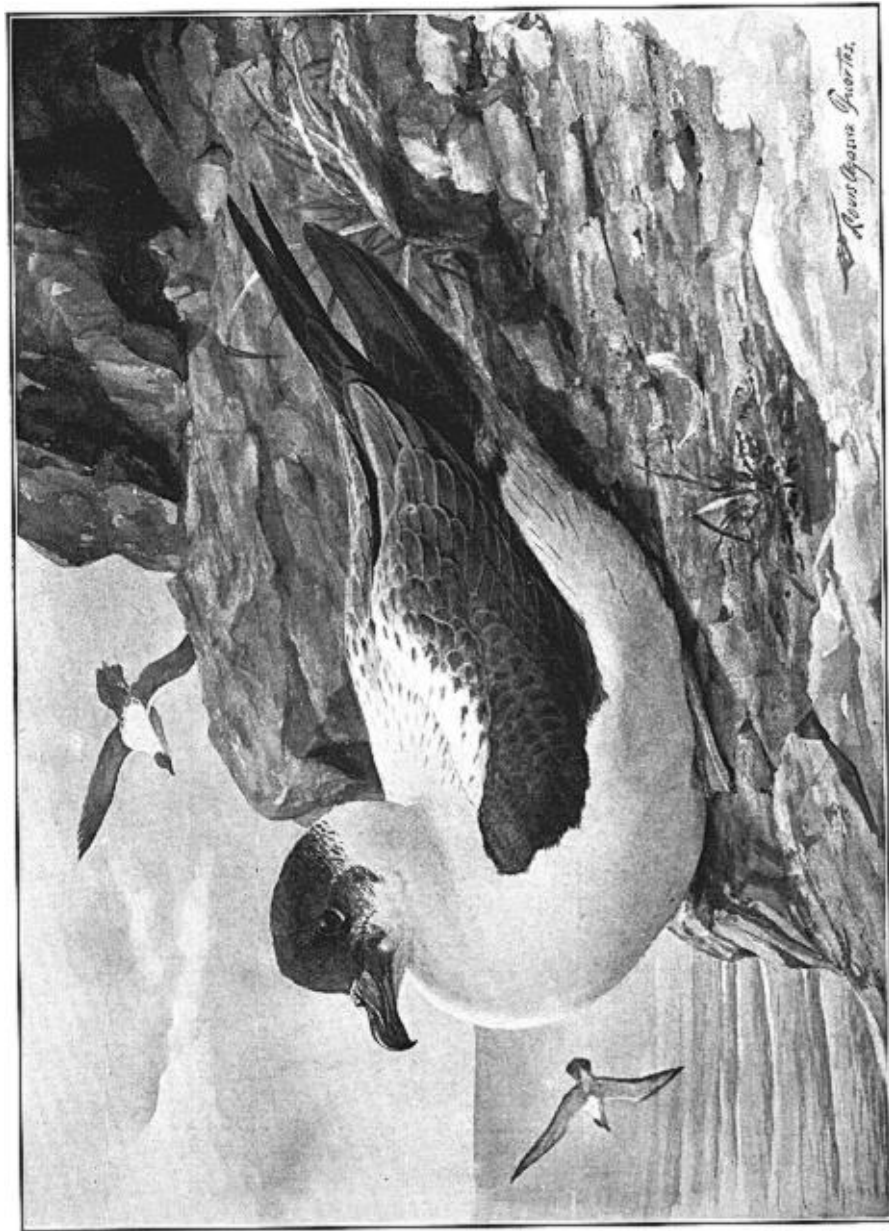


PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTION OF A NEW PETREL.

BY ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY.

Plate II.

ON the return voyage of the recent expedition to the island of South Georgia conducted by the American Museum of Natural History and the Museum of The Brooklyn Institute of Arts and



ZESTRELATA CHIONOPHEARA MURPHY.

Sciences, a stop of one day was made at Trinidad Islet in the south tropical Atlantic. Among the birds collected by the writer on that occasion is a single specimen of an *Æstrelata* which is new to science.

The new species belongs to that division of the genus characterized by an exposed white area on the under side of the outer primary, and in its measurements it approximates its three congeners, *Æ. arminjoniana* Gigl. and Salvad., *Æ. wilsoni* Sharpe, and *Æ. trinitatis* Gigl. and Salvad., which likewise are known only from the vicinity of the same remarkable islet. In plumage, however, it resembles no other *Æstrelata*, its white mantle, flecked with spots like ermine-tails, making it at once the most distinctive and most beautiful of its kind. Further notes on the affinities of the species will be presented in a forthcoming paper. I propose to name it

***Æstrelata chionophara*¹ sp. nov.**

Type in American Museum of Natural History, R. C. M. No. 1982, adult ♀, Trinidad Islet, lat. 20° 30' S., long. 29° 22' W., April 8, 1913.—Pileum, sides of head, wings, rump, upper tail-coverts, and tail blackish-brown, the concealed portions of all the feathers white; a few interspersed white filoplumes on occiput; mental apex, lores, cheeks, fore part of cervix and sides of neck mottled blackish-brown and white; hinder cervix and interscapulum white, the feathers with dark shafts, faint anteriorly, which expand to form conspicuous rhomboidal speckles on the middle and lower back; scapulars white with dark shaft streaks, the exposed portion of outermost dark; under surface except chin white, the under tail-coverts broadly tipped with blackish-brown; under wing-coverts white, a few dark shafts and mottlings toward margin of wing; axillaries white with dark shafts, two of them on either side broadly edged on one web with blackish-brown; sides marked slightly with dark feather shafts; feathers of lower flanks tipped with blackish-brown chiefly on their outer vanes. Bill (in life) bright flesh color flecked with black, the unguis chiefly black; iris brown; feet and legs (in life) pale flesh color with a few black freckles on webs. Length (skin) 376 mm., wing 285, tail, central rectrices 115, lateral rectrices 81, culmen 30, tarsus 33, middle toe with claw 51.

¹ From *Χιόνειος* = snowy, and *Φάρος* = a mantle.