

Appendices to Crowley and Garnett. 2023. Distribution and decline of the Golden-shouldered Parrot *Psephotellus chrysopterygius* 1845-1990

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Appendix 1. Timeline of taxonomic classification of Paradise, Golden-shouldered and Hooded Parrots

For ease of reading, each taxonomic entity has been formatted as follows:

Taxon	Formatting	Example
<i>Psephotus</i>	Italic	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)
<i>Platycercus</i>	Underlined italic	<u><i>Platycercus pulcherrimus</i></u> Gould
<i>Psephotellus</i>	Bold italic	<i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)

Taxon	Formatting	Example
<i>P. chrysopterygius</i>	Yellow shading	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould
<i>P. dissimilis</i> or <i>P. cucullatus</i>	Green shading	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett
<i>Psephotellus</i>	Pink shading	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)

Year	Paradise Parrot		Golden-shouldered Parrot		Hooded Parrot		Source	
1845	<u><i>Platycercus pulcherrimus</i></u> Gould						Gould (1845)	
1845	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)						Gould (1848)	
1857			<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould				Gould (1857)	
1878							Ramsay (1878)	
1890							Broinowski (1891)	
1891							Salvadori (1891), Ramsay (1891)	
1898					<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett		Collett (1898) Campbell (1901)
1909							<i>Psephotus cucullatus</i> North	North (1909)
1910					<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett		Salvadori (1909)
1910					<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius blaauwi</i> van Oort	van Oort (1910)
1912					<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)		Mathews (1912)
1913					<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett		RAOU Checklist Committee (1913)
1913	<i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)		<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> (Gould)		<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)		Mathews (1913)	
1915	<i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus dubius</i> Mathews			<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)	<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius dorotheae</i> Mathews	Mathews (1915), (Mathews 1916-1917)	
1918			<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius nova</i> Mathews			Mathews (1918)	

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Year	Paradise Parrot	Golden-shouldered Parrot	Hooded Parrot	Source
1920	<i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Mathews and Iredale (1920)
	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett	Le Souëf and Kinghorn (1924)
1926	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) dissimilis</i> Collett	RAOU Checklist Committee (1926)
1937	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Peters (1937)
1941		<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett	Condon (1941)
1955		<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Cain (1955)
1956	<i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotellus dissimilis</i> Collett	Lendon (1950)
1966	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Immelmann (1966)
1968	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) dissimilis</i> Collett	Lendon (1968)
1969	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Forshaw (1969)
1973	<i>Platycercus pulcherrimus</i> Gould	<i>Platycercus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Platycercus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)*	Storr (1973)
1975	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett	Condon (1975)
	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) pulcherrimus</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Wolters (1975-1982)
1984	<i>Platycercus pulcherrimus</i> Gould	<i>Platycercus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Platycercus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)*	Storr (1984)
1989	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Forshaw and Cooper (1989)
1990	<i>Psephotus [pulcherrimus] pulcherrimus</i> (Gould) ≈ <i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus [pulcherrimus] chrysopterygius</i> Gould ≈ <i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus [pulcherrimus] dissimilis</i> Collett ≈ <i>Psephotellus dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Sibley and Monroe (1990)
1992	<i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Wells and Wellington (1992)
1994	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Immelmann and Vogels (1994)
1997		<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) dissimilis</i> Collett	Schodde and Mason (1997)
2008		<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett	Higgins (1999) Christidis and Boles (2008)

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Year	Paradise Parrot	Golden-shouldered Parrot	Hooded Parrot	Source
2009	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus (Psephotellus) dissimilis</i> Collett	Australian Biological Resources Study (2009)
2013	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett	BirdLife Australia (2013)
2014	<i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus dissimilis</i> (Collett)	del Hoyo and Collar (2014)
2016				BirdLife Australia (2016)
2018				Provost et al (2018)
2019				BirdLife Australia (2019)
2021	<i>Psephotus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotus chrysopterygius</i> Gould	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> Collett	Fraser and Gray (2019)
2022	<i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus chrysopterygius</i> (Gould)	<i>Psephotellus dissimilis</i> (Collett)	Clements et al (2021)
				Gill et al (2022)
				BirdLife Australia (2022)

* By implication. Storr's lists of Queensland Birds did not include Hooded Parrots, but lists GSPs as a subspecies of *P. chrysopterygius*.

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Appendix 2. Gilbert's and Leichhardt's observations of *Platycercus* spp.

Sources: Journal entries: (Gilbert 1844-1845, Leichhardt 1847); locations: (National Centre of Biography 2014).

Date	Location	<i>Platycercus palliceps</i>	<i>Platycercus new</i>	Journal entries (transcribed from original documents, including spelling errors)
20 Oct 1844	Kent's Lagoon (26.695° S, 150.543° E)	Yes	Yes	<u>Gilbert p 13</u> : During our long stay at this camp I have been constantly out in different directions, and observed and made out the following species: ... <i>Platycercus palioepa</i> – <i>Platycercus</i> (new)
25 Nov 1844	Pigeon Camp (25.376° S, 149.311° E)	Yes	Yes	<u>Gilbert p 43</u> : The <i>Platycercus palliceps</i> and New were both common here
11 Dec 1844	<i>Erythrina</i> Camp (24.739° S, 149.098° E)	Yes	Yes	<u>Gilbert p 58</u> : In a ramble with my Gun, I saw nothing new ... I observed the species most numerous, ... <i>Platycercus palliceps</i> ... <i>Platycercus</i> (new)
20 Dec 1844	Brown's Lagoon (24.734° S, 148.729° E)	Yes		<u>Leichhardt</u> : Moreton Bay Rosella parrot, were very numerous.
24 Dec 1844	Brown's Lagoon (24.734° S, 148.729° E)	Yes	Yes	<u>Gilbert p 70</u> : The Moreton Bay Rosella, the new <i>Platycercus</i> ... have all been seen here
28-29 Dec 1844	Deception Camp on Comet Creek (24.419° S, 148.590° E)		Yes	<u>Gilbert p 216</u> : I was rather surprised to day, to meet with my new <i>Platycercus</i> of the Downs, a species which has not been observed with us since leaving the Deception Camp on the Comet Creek.
30 Jan 1845	<i>Crinum</i> Camp (22.925° S, 148.292° E)	Yes		<u>Gilbert p 105</u> : On the plains I observed ... <i>Platycercus Paliceps</i> ...
25 Feb 1845	Thunderstorm Camp (21.908° S, 148.015° E)	Yes		<u>Gilbert p 127</u> : the <i>Platycervis paliceps</i> ... are very common
8 Mar 1845	Second Camp on Suttor Creek (21.329° S, 148.11° E)	Yes		<u>Gilbert p 137</u> : While out I observed the following species ... <i>Platycercus paliceps</i>
11 Apr 1845	New Gum Tree Camp (19.949° S, 146.288° E)	Yes		<u>Gilbert p 163</u> : ... <i>Platycercus paliceps</i> ... and other forms still accompany us as abundantly as first observed at the first part of the expedition
16 Apr 1845	Fretted Sandstone Camp (19.521° S, 145.901° E)	Yes		<u>Gilbert p 167</u> : During the afternoon, while out shoeing, I observed several species which I had supposed had left us; the following species may be enumerated ... <i>Platycereus Paliceps</i>
30 Apr 1845	Burdekin River (18.963° S, 145.124° E)	Yes		<u>Gilbert p 176</u> : I observed the <i>Platycercus Paliceps</i> as abundant as ever
15 May 1845	Whitsunday Camp (18.528° S, 145.204° E)	Yes		<u>Gilbert p 193</u> : As we leave the Burdekin tomorrow and probably very soon be in a totally different character of country, the following species of Birds may be enumerated as being observed at this Latitude: ... <i>Platycerpus paliceps</i> ...

Date	Location	<i>Platycercus palliceps</i>	<i>Platycercus new</i>	Journal entries (transcribed from original documents, including spelling errors)
11 Jun 1845	Lynd River, Bulimba (17.003° S, 143.512° E)		Possibly	<u>Gilbert p 212</u> : ... a new Pigeon and a new Parrot have been observed, but as yet none of us have been able to shoot either.
17 Jun 1845	Mitchell River, Highbury (16.428° S, 143.15° E)		Yes	<u>Gilbert p 216</u> : I was rather surprised today, to meet with my new ... <i>Platycercus</i> of the Downs, a species which has not been observed with us since leaving the Deception Camp on the Comet Creek
18 Jun 1845	Mitchell River, Highbury (16.428° S, 143.15° E)		Yes	<u>Gilbert p 216</u> : During the day I observed the following birds in the immediate vicinity of our camp:- <i>Platycercus</i> (new)
20 Jun 1845	Mitchell River, Highbury (-16.195° S, 142.891° E)		Yes	<u>Gilbert p 217</u> : Great numbers of ... <i>Platycercus</i> (new) ... <u>Leichhardt</u> : Mr. Gilbert's <i>Platycercus</i> of Darling Downs ... were very numerous, and it is probable that the plains round the gulf are their principal home, whence they migrate to the southward.
24 Jun 1845	Mitchell River, Dunbar (15.949° S, 142.317° E)		Yes	<u>Gilbert p 221</u> : The new <i>Platycercus</i> I saw in great numbers

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Appendix 3. Excerpts from McLennan's writings relating to Golden-shouldered Parrots, September 1921 to May 1922

Transcribed from original documents, including spelling errors. Text interpretations are shown in curly brackets (e.g. Rohiby {Rokeby} track).

Image numbers (e.g. Img_1672.jpg) provided for notebook entries, as no journal or page numbers were available.

Coloured numbers within square brackets refer to Record ID (e.g. [10]) and Record Code (e.g. [GSP-006a-obs]), locational information (e.g. -14.014, 143.634 ± 500 m), and museum specimen numbers (e.g. NMV-BE1419) in Table S1 of Appendix 5.

13 Apr 1915

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_1672.jpg] Return to Archer River and go up the Watson to where I found nest of Great Billed Heron last August. Anchor at sunset within half a mile of the place could not get any further as tide was running out.

14 Apr 1915

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_1672.jpg] ... Go ashore on right bank of river and follow along edge of [Img_1673.jpg] mangroves then up a creek into forest country... On reaching the river, the Parakeets were flushed [10. GSP-006a-obs, -13.375, 141.827 ± 250 m]; they flew up river [Img_1674.jpg] about half a mile and into the mangroves. I followed and searched for them for about an hour, but could not find them. Returning along the edge of the mangroves, I saw one of the Parrakeets flying in from the plain, it lit in the mangroves and I shot it [10. GSP-006b-skin]. It proved to be *P. chrysopterygius*.

15 Apr 1915

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

Spend the morning looking for *P. chrysopterygius*, but did not find any. Went on board and skin birds. In the afternoon, I hunt around for the birds again but could not see any of them.

Friday, 2 Sep 1921

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0410.jpg] Start off on foot along the road... [Img_0411.jpg] ... Silver Plains stn stop for lunch. Country level... Reach camp Joes Lagoon 17 Miles...

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 3] I start off {from Port Stewart} on foot about 10 am. Pack horses and buckboard will follow later ...

Continue on for another mile to Silver Plains Station. [p 4] Ten miles from Silver Plains station the pack team

catches up to me and I ride from there to the camping place at Joes Lagoon 5 miles further on; 17 miles from Pt. Stewart...

Saturday, 3 Sep 21

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[[Img_0412.jpg](#)] ... Old finch nest in hole drilled in anthill...

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 4] ... I start off immediately after breakfast and go on about 7 ½ miles to the foot of the range ... [p 5] an old Finch's nest found in a hole drilled in an anthill ...

Monday, 12 Dec 1921

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[[Img_0657.jpg](#)] ... Saddle up and start off to 8 mile along Rokeby road to look for the Anthill parrot *Psephotus* sp? Mr Keppel manager of Rokeby station who is going out today told me that he had seen a party of these [[Img_0658.jpg](#)] birds about this locality last April [[13. GSP-008a-obs, -13.912, 143.118 ± 500 m](#)]. He also saw a pair 18 miles out along this road a couple of days ago [[14. GSP-009a-obs, -13.834, 142.937 ± 5,000 m](#)]. He is to meet me 8 miles out today... Reach the 6 mile ridge, it was here that Mr Keppel [[Img_0659.jpg](#)] saw the Anthill parrots in April last year. Have a good search through this patch of country but see nothing of them... Go on to 8 Mile water and wait for half an hour till Mr Keppel arrived. Boil billy and have some lunch then go on with Mr Keppel to 10 mile where he said there was a suitable patch of country for the Parrots. Have a good search around but see nothing of them. Head back again. Mr Keppel [[Img_0660.jpg](#)] comes back to 6 mile ridge and we have a further search there, no result.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 92] ... Mr [Fred] Keppel, manager of Rohiby {Rokeby} who has been on the lookout for the Anthill Parrot (*Neophotus* sp.?) said that he saw a pair two days ago 20 miles out along the Rohiby {Rokeby} track [[14](#)]. He is going out again today and said that if I would meet him at the 8 mile water, he would show me the place where he saw 6 of these birds last April ... Reach the 6 mile ridge, it was about here that Mr. Keppel saw the Anthill Parrots [[13](#)]. Have a bit of a search round ... Go on to the 8 mile water and wait for Mr. Keppel who turned up half an hour later. Boil the billy and have some lunch, then go on another couple of miles to a ridge that Mr Keppel thought might be suitable country for the Anthill Parrots. Hunt around on the ridge but did not see anything of them. Head back again to the 6 mile and hunt round here; no luck.

Tuesday, 3 Jan 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

No entries

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 99] ... one [p 100] of the musterers from Rokeby told me he saw a pair of Anthill Parrots, {space left for species name} about the 8 mile today [15. GSP-010a-obs, -13.898, 143.096 ± 1,000 m].

Wednesday, 4 Jan 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

No entries

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 100] Cecil brings the horses early; saddle up and go out to the 8 mile. Spend the day searching for the Anthill Parrots. Cover a big area of country but do not see any sign of them.

Monday, 20 Mar 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[img_0772.jpg] ... Friend from Pt Stewart {Mick Bassani} 2 lots Anthill parrots. 2 pairs ¼ mile Port [16. GSP-011a-obs, -14.071, 143.683 ± 500 m]. 3 pairs 7 mile [17. GSP-007b-obs, -14.081, 143.59 ± 1,000 m], seen here last year [12. GSP-007a-obs, -14.081, 143.59 ± 1,000 m]. Not nesting yet.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 147] ... A friend of mine {Mick Bassani}, who had been down Port Stewart way for some weeks, had just arrived back in Coen. He had been on the lookout for Anthill Parrots for me and located a lot of them, two pairs of birds [p 148] were seen several times about a quarter of a mile from the landing at the Port, and last seen two days ago when he was leaving there [16]; three pairs were several times seen at a place 7 miles from the Port [17], where he saw them 12 months ago [12]. He had a good search round this place and found a couple of last season's nest ... He will be going back again in a few day's time and I think I will go along with him and get a couple of skins.

Saturday, 22 Apr 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

No relevant entry

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 184] ... About 7 pm Herb Thompson arrived from mustering camp 14 miles out to north of Coen; he told me that one of the men (a half caste Willie Massey), had found a nest of the Anthill Parrot within a mile of the camp a couple of days previous [18. GSP-012a-nest, -13.828, 143.103 ± 5,000 m], and that if I would come out he would show it to me.

Sunday, 23 Apr 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[[Img_0846.jpg](#)] Wake & start 3 am. Very dark. Reach 9 Mile at first flush of dawn and camp at yard on Lagoon Creek shortly after sunrise. Get cattle started on road.

Nest [[18](#)] contained 5 eggs [[19](#)] apparently hard set. Shape cylindrical tapering to top Anthill 6 ft high. Base 18 in diam top 6 in entrance 1 ½ deep x 1 ¾ in diam 2 ft 6 in from ground. Depth from front of entrance to back of nest 10 ¼ in. Egg chamber 7 x 6 in deep. Bottom 2 ½ in below entrance. [[Img_0847.jpg](#)] ... The Anthill Parrots returned in a short time. {Blank space left}.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 184] ... Follow the Coen-Mein road for 10 miles ... turn off to the westward at ten mile telegraph pole and reach camp 4 miles further on at Lagoon Creek yard ... [p 185] Then Massey and I go along to look at the nest of the Anthill Parrot. Go eastward from the camp through fairly thick forest country to an anthill flat, thickly dotted with magnetic and spire termitariums. This country is lightly timbered and in places still a bit boggy. Ride around for some considerable time but fail to locate the nest, which is in one of the spire termitariums. Several old nests are seen, all in the same kind of anthill. Eventually Massey cuts his track of a couple of days previous and soon locates the nest. The bird flushes when we get within a few yards of the nest and flies to the thick timber along the edge of the flat. Could not see into the nest but could feel the eggs with a light twig. Get to work and take a couple of photos of the termitarium from about 8 feet, then a photo of the entrance from 2 feet 10 inches; then cut out a section of the anthill to expose the eggs, of which I take two photos in situ ... Secure the eggs, which appear to be heavily incubated, but I had hopes of blowing them until I examined the last one which was just chipping – by jove I was disappointed [[19. GSP-012b-eggs, NMV-BE1418](#)]. Get away about 30 yards and wait for the birds to return. In a few minutes I heard a strange parrot call, and saw both birds flying from tree to tree along the edge of the flat too far away to note the colours. In a short time, both flew to the termitarium, the male on top and the female to the entrance to nest. I could see they were not pulcherrimus, and thought I had found a new species. With the first barrel I secured the male [[20. GSP-012c-skin, NMV-HLW527](#)], and brought the female down with the second barrel as she flew off [[21. GSP-012d-skin, NMV-HLW529](#)]. On picking them up I saw they were *P. chrysopterygius*, a rare bird, the eggs of which are undescribed. While collecting for Dr. Macgillivray in 1915 on the Archer River, I saw a pair only of these birds and secured the male, which was sent to G. M. Mathews, who later stated that as far as he knew it was the only one that had been secured since it was first discovered ... [p 186] Massey suggests that we search a further area of the anthill flat. Several more old nests are noted in similar termitariums. Then I found one that the birds were just starting, the hole was a couple of inches deep [[22. GSP-012e-nest](#)]; later on Massey flushed a bird from its nest [[23. GSP-012f-nest](#)], it appeared to be still enlarging the nesting

chamber as the mound of dirt at base of anthill was quite fresh and there was fresh dirt in the bottom of the entrance tunnel. I fastened a match to the end of a twig, lit it and illumined the nesting chamber; could see all over the bottom of it, no eggs, but it appears to be almost completed. Search a further area, but do not find any more nests. Return to camp, blazing the trees so that I can locate the nest again ... Herb Thompson and I then head for Coen ... On the way to the road, we cross the end of the anthill flat. I found another termitarium in which the parrots were just starting to make a nest [GSP-012g-nest] ... I proceed on to Coen reaching there 5 p.m. Set to work on the eggs as soon as [p 187] I get in, two more were now chipping; drill a large hole in all and kill the embryo. I think I will be able to blow a couple of them. After tea I set to work on the birds. I ... did not get the birds finished till nearly 11 pm.

White (1922)

[p 109] A bushman first told me of the "Anthill Parrot", and said he knew of a nest [18]. Go out with him eastward into lightly timbered country in places a bit boggy, and come to a flat, thickly dotted with magnetic and tall, thin spire-shaped termitariums (White-ant mounds). Locate the nest in one of the anthill, and the bird flushes while I am within a few yards. Can feel eggs with a light twig. Take several photos, then secure the eggs, which prove to be heavily incubated [19]. Termitarium 18 in. diameter at base, 6 ft. in height; entrance to nest, 2 ft. 6 in. from ground, and 1 ¾ in. diameter; tunnel 3 ¼ in. long, then enlarged chamber 7 in. by 6 in. deep, bottom being 2 ½ in. below level of entrance. Hearing strange Parrot calls, a pair of birds presently appeared, the male [20] flying to the top of the anthill and the female [21] to the entrance of the nest. I really expected to see *P. pulcherrimus* the Paradise Parrot, but they proved to be the very rare Golden-winged Parrot.

Several old nests were noted in similar situations: then we found one where the birds were preparing as the mound of dirt at the base of the anthill was quite fresh [23]. By fastening a lighted match to the end of a twig the interior was illuminated. No eggs yet.

Monday, 24 Apr 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

No entry

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 187] ... The photos of the anthill parrot's nest turned out much better than I expected ... After breakfast I set to work on eggs of anthill parrot, get as much as I can out of them and then fill with a solution of pearl ash and put them away to rot.

Tuesday, 25 Apr 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

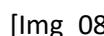
No entry

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 187] ... Set to work on eggs of anthill parrot; two of them were failures but I managed to get the others cleaned out, they are very poor specimens, the shells are stained a good bit; still they are better than none at all. It was a fearfully tedious job, as the shells are so fragile.

Friday, 28 Apr 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

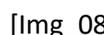
[] ... Call in at police station to see about getting Tommy for the trip to Pt Stewart as I intend starting there for tomorrow. Sgt McGreehan said he will send him up this afternoon.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 189] ... Call in at the Police camp to see about getting Tommy for the trip to Pt. Stewart, as I intend starting for there tomorrow, weather permitting. Sgt. McGreehan says he will send Tommy along this afternoon.

Saturday, 29 Apr 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

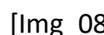
[] ... too wet to make a start...

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 189] ... too wet to make a start for Pt Stewart.

Sunday, 30 Apr 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

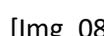
[] ... Load up and make a start ...

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 189] ... Decide to make a start for Pt Stewart. Load up and get on road by 11:30 am ... Reach Station Creek, 12 miles out, by 5 pm and camp for the night.

Monday, 1 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[] ... Get over the range & down to the level country by 9 am. A couple of miles from the foot of the range road passes through Anthill flats. All Magnetic termitariums here. []

P. chrysopterygius had been trying some. A female of this species seen flying near the treetops [25. GSP-013a-obs, -14.094, 143.388 ± 300 m]. Follow direction of flight, several more termitariums seen where the birds had started to make their nesting tunnel only one appeared fresh [26. GSP-013b-nest] ... [Img_0855.jpg] ... Continue on a few hundred yards along track another likely looking anthill flat. Ride through it, a few spire shaped termitariums here second one I looked at a female *P. chrysopterygius* flushed could not see into nest [27. GSP-014a-nest, -14.094, 143.392 ± 300 m]. Take a couple of snaps & then start to enlarge entrance, heard small young squeaking; get a small twig & could flush them with it. Flat runs parallel with road half a mile further on another female flushed could see [Img_0856.jpg] 5 eggs & dirt from hollow looked quite fresh compared with dirt from previous nest [28. GSP-015a-nest, -14.094, 143.395 ± 300 m]. Take snap, then start to open up entrance & hollow to take snap of eggs, get a section cut out to nest chamber & then find that there was a young one just hatched as well as the 5 eggs. Continue on searching through flats as I go. Numerous Termitariums with old nests & holes from 1 to 2 in deep drilled in them, but none fresh. Flats run near road to Joes Lagoon 7 miles from [Img_0857.jpg] foot of range... Camp Joes Lagoon for lunch. Load up & start off again. Anthill flats all along road. Flush a bird from nest spire shaped termitarium [29. GSP-016a-nest, -14.099, 143.463 ± 500 m]. 5 young well feathered. Traces of birds everywhere. About 4 miles further on I saw a pair of birds out on flat [31. GSP-017a-obs, -14.107, 143.511 ± 500 m]. Search round & find a nest in Magnetic Termitarium [32. GSP-017b-eggs, -14.107, 143.511 ± 500 m; NMV-BE1419]. Finch had taken possession & had started to build, break it open & find 4 eggs of *P. chrysopterygius* behind the [Img_0858.jpg] finch nest. Entrance to nest 3 ft from ground. 1 3/8 in dia. depth 1 ft 11 in. Egg chamber 12 ½ in long x 4 in dia. x 4 in deep. Bottom of egg chamber 3 1.2 in lower than the entrance. Termitarium 5 ft 6 high 5 ft x 1 ft 6 at base tapering to fine edge. Thickness at height of nest 7 in. Tommy was waiting for me further along road... Sunset. Still about 6 miles to go to reach Pt Stewart. Reach Silver Plains station 4 miles further on & camp. Notes written to date.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 190] ... Get over the range and get on to level country by 10 a.m. A couple of miles from foot of the range the road passes through a stretch of anthill flats, mostly magnetic termitariums; in several, small holes from 1 to 2 inch deep, showed where the parrots (*P. chrysopterygius*) had been at work. A female of the species was seen flying past over the tree tops [25]; follow the line of flight, several more places noted where the birds had been at work, only one appeared fresh [26] ... Work back through to the road again ... A few hundred yards further along the road strike another likely looking flat; search through it, a few spire shaped termitariums here. A female *Psephotus* flushed from its nest in the second one of them that I looked at; could not see into the nest [27]. Take a couple of photos of it, then start to enlarge the opening; heard very small young squeaking in it, so leave it. Continue on, signs of where the birds had started to build and several old nests of last and previous seasons noted in both magnetic and spire shaped [p 191] termitariums. Half a

mile further on another female *Psephotus* flushed from its nest in a spire shaped termitarium; I could dimly see 5 eggs in this nest, and the dirt at base of termitarium was quite fresh looking in comparison with the previous nest [28]. Take a photo of it, then start to enlarge the opening to get the eggs; found there was one small young one just hatched as well as the 5 eggs, so patch up the hole I made and leave it. Good flats all along the road to Ives {Joe's} Lagoons, 7 miles from the foot of the range. On all of them, old nests of previous seasons and other places where the birds had started to nest, some of them quite fresh, were noted ... Turn out here for lunch ... then load up and start off again. Anthill flats all along the road. A *Psephotus* flushed from its nest in a spire shaped termitarium; I could dimly make out 5 fairly big young ones in nest [29]. Everywhere signs of the birds could be seen, old nests and others that they had started and deserted [30. GSP-016b-nest]. About 4 miles further on I saw a pair of birds [31]; search every termitarium. Found a fresh looking nest in a magnetic termitarium [32], on looking into it saw that a finch (*P. nigrotecta* {*Poephila cincta atropygialis*}) had taken possession and started to build. Was going on when a thought struck me to open up the nest and have a look at it; did so, and found that the parrots had laid 4 eggs before the finches took possession. Secure them ... Getting late, so get back on to road and push on. Found Tommy waiting for me a mile further on ... Sunset, and still 7 miles to go; I could have camped here but there was no water handy, so push on. Reach Silver Plains.

White (1922)

[p 109] Found a nest in which I could hear young squeaking. Another had five eggs, and one young bird just hatched. Take photo [p 110] and patch up the hole again. Four miles further on found that a Black-tailed Finch (*Poephila atropygialis*) had built in a chamber hollowed out by a Golden-winged Parrot; on looking in found Parrot had laid four eggs in the Finch's nest; found still another *Psephotus* Parrot's nest, which contained four fresh eggs. Numerous old nesting holes were noticed, all in termitariums.

Later in the month several nests were examined, which contained young in various stages of development. In the floor of the nesting chamber in every instance there was a remarkable colony of scavenger grubs, the larvae of some moth, the species of which had not yet been determined.

Tuesday, 2 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0859.jpg] Load and go over to Pt Stewart. Mick Bassani who has been on lookout for Parrots was loaded up and about to start off for Joes lagoons. He showed me where saw parrots near here and gave me directions as to how to find another locality 7 miles {11.2 km} out, Tommy knows the place there so will not have any trouble finding it. Start off out to hunt round where Mick saw the birds. No trace of them. A Coucal flushed from nest 2 ft 6 in from round long grass. Fresh eggs. Go further afield to more anthill flat country. ?Burning? [Img_0860.jpg] end of flat saw parrot holes in magnetic termitarium. Riding near to it a Finch *P.*

nigrotecta {*Poephila cincta atropygialis*} flushed, small young [33. GSP-018a-nest, -14.014, 143.634 ± 500 m]. Leave rest of flat to be searched on way back. Go on to another one. Work up along it for a couple of miles. Found several old nests, Parrots and one not long finished, but it was deserted [34. GSP-019a-nest, -14.008, 143.63 ± 500 m]. Nests in both spire shaped and magnetic anthills. Several old finch nests run in old parrot holes (No birds seen). Return to first flat and start to search it thoroughly. *P. chrysopterygius* flushed from nest spire shaped Termitarium [35. GSP-018b-nest, -14.014, 143.634 ± 500 m]. [Img_0861.jpg, duplicated as Img_0862.jpg] 4 eggs and one small young just hatched. Another flushed from nest in Magnetic Termitarium. 4 eggs appear fresh leave for full set [36. GSP-018c-nest, -14.014, 143.634 ± 500 m]. No more found. Head in and back along saltpan.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 192] Go on to Pt Stewart. Mick Bassani, who has been on the lookout for Anthill Parrots for me, was just about to start off for Joe's Lagoon, where he intended camping for a few days. He gave me directions as to how I to find the locality where he had seen the birds 7 miles out. I went back along the road with him and he showed me the place where he had seen two pairs of the birds only a few days ago, an open plain dotted with magnetic termitariums ... Tommy and I start to search for anthill parrots. Did not see any of the birds or find any traces of them building in the termitariums. Tommy, who knows this part of the country, told me of a couple of anthill flats further afield, so we set off to them. For a couple of miles the way leads through heavily timbered wattle and swamp paperbark country at back of the saltpans and mangroves ... Reach the first anthill flat, an open area extending well inland from the edge of swampy ground behind the mangroves and dotted with magnetic termitariums. In one I could see the nesting hole of *P. chrysopterygius*; on going up to examine it, a Finch (*P. nigrotecta* {*Poephila cincta atropygialis*}) flushed from the hole in which was its nest containing small young [33]. Leave the rest of the flat to be searched later and go on to another, half a mile away. Search through this flat for a couple of miles; found several old nests of the *Psephotus* in both spire shaped and magnetic termitariums [34]. In several of the old nesting holes finches (*P. nigrotecta* {*Poephila cincta atropygialis*}) had built, and reared their young. Return to the first flat, and start to search it thoroughly. A female *Psephotus* flushed from its nest in a spire shaped termitarium, it contained 4 eggs and one young one just hatched [35]. Further on another female flushed from its nest in a magnetic termitarium; I could see 4 eggs in it, and they appeared to be fresh [36]. I left them to see if more would be laid. No more nests were found. Head back along the edge of the swampy [p 193] country at the back of the mangroves ... a pandanus ... a small shallow fresh water swamp ... Grass very long and thick along the edge of the saltpans and swampy depressions ... Get back about 5 p.m.

Wednesday, 3 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0867.jpg] Breakfast saddle up and start off out to Balclutha 7 Miles to south of Port Stewart. Cross river a mile above camp and head south. Good anthill flats on right of track for 8 Miles. do not stop to search any. 4 Miles out *P. personata* flushed from nest ... [Img_0868.jpg] ... From here on the country is heavily grassed and timbered. On right of track timber is mainly Moreton Bay Ash, Bloodwood and Wattle. On Left, Big Paperbarks. A couple of miles further on a track runs along edge of great rush grown swamp at back of mangroves. Bald coots numerous here. Try swamp in a couple of places. Too boggy. Reach place where Mick Bassani saw Parrots. Big open plain heavily grassed with ?? few Magnetic Termitariums. Have a look at all of them. No sign of any Parrot nests or of the birds. Head back working all likely looking country on the way, No [Img_0869.jpg] sign of birds met with. Strike River 2 miles above camp. Dense brakes of cane grass from 12 ft to 15 ft high for a couple of hundred yards. Taken horses all their time to force a way through it. Take snap from open place lots of scrub along river here... Get back 5 pm.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 193] ... saddle up and start off for Balclutha, 7 miles to south of Pt. Stewart. Cross the river a mile above camp. On the right of the track, for about three miles, there are good anthill flats; do not stop to search through any of them. Four miles out a Finch (*P. personata*) flushed from its nest ... From here on, the country is heavily grassed and timbered; on the right, Moreton Bay Ash, Bloodwood, Wattle, and other trees; on the left, big paperbarks; and beyond, the mangroves and saltpans. Further on the track runs along the edge of a great rush grown swamp which extends for miles to the south along the edge of the mangroves ... Reach the place where Mick Bassani had seen the anthill parrot [p 194] A big open plain, heavily grassed and dotted with magnetic termitariums; examine all of them, but saw no signs of the birds or of their nests. Head back again, working through all the anthill flats on the way; no birds or nests seen, scarcely any spire shaped termitariums on these flats. Strike the river a couple of miles above camp.

Thursday, 4 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0869.jpg] Saddle up and start off to get rest of *P chrysopterygius* noted Tuesday. [Img_0870.jpg] Nest of *P chrysopterygius* [37. GSP-018d-eggs, -14.014, 143.634 ± 500 m, AM-O.63934]. Entrance 2 ft 9 in from ground 1 1/2 x 1 3/4 in diameters depth from entrance to rear 17 in Egg chamber 12 in x 3 in x 4 in deep. Bottom 1 1/2 in below entrance. Eggs 10 in from entrance. Shot both birds [female: 38. GSP-018e-skin, NMV-HLW4942 or NMV-HLW528]. Male apparently immature plumage [39. GSP-018f-skin, NMV-HLW4941]. Eggs appear hard set. Go further afield working through all the anthill flats on the way. Several old nests and 3 that the birds had started within the last few days [40. GSP-020a-nest, -14.021, 143.624 ± 2,500 m; 41. GSP-

020a-nest; 42. GSP-020c-nest]. Nest of *P. nigrotecta* {*P. cincta atropygialis*} in old nest of parrot [43. GSP-020d-obs]. 6 hard set eggs. Passing through a belt of heavily timbered country a pair of *P. chrysopterygius* flying past [Male: 44. GSP-020e-skin, -14.021, 143.624 ± 2,500 m, NMV-HLW4940 ; Female: 45. GSP-020f-skin, NMV-HLW4942 or NMV-HLW528]. Follow for a few hundred yards. located them again in a big Bloodwood. Shot both. [Img_0871.jpg] ...

Head back strike long patch of Magnetic anthill country running to NW work all through it. Old nests and fresh traces of birds everywhere [46. GSP-021a-obs, -14.058, 143.588 ± 5,000 m]. No birds seen.

P. nigrotecta {*P. cincta atropygialis*} flushed from old parrot nest in which it had built and laid set eggs [47. GSP-021b-obs]. Head into Coen road thru good country all the way. No nests of Parrot found. No bird seen. Old nests [Img_0872.jpg] and places where birds had started nests frequently seen [48. GSP-021c-obs]. Strike road 3 miles from camp and return along it... Get back 4:30 pm. Lunch and set to work on birds. Get 3 done. have to leave other till morning. Light not much good.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 194] Saddle up and start off out to get the nest of *P. chrysopterygius* noted 4 eggs 2.5.22. ... Reach the nest; female flushed again, nest still contained but 4 eggs [37]. Take a photo of the termitarium, then open up nest to get a photo of eggs in situ. Secure the eggs, which appear to be hard set ... Wait for bird to return, which she did in a few minutes time – drive her away; about 20 minutes later she returned [38] with the male in attendance, secure both. Male in immature plumage [39]. Get back a bit and take a photo of the flat to show termitariums ... Go further afield. Several old nests noted, and three that had been started lately [40, 41, 42]. A finch (*P. nigrotecta* {*P. cincta atropygialis*}) flushed from its nest in an old nesting hole of *P. chrysopterygius* [43] ... Passing through a belt of heavily timbered country, a pair of *Psephotus* were seen flying past. Follow line of flight for a few hundred yards and locate the birds in a big bloodwood; secure both of them [male: 44; female: 45]. [p 195]. Head back ...

Continue on, strike a big stretch of anthill flat running to NW, work all through it. Numerous old nests and fairly recent traces of *Psephotus* noted but no birds seen [46]. *P. nigrotecta* {*P. cincta atropygialis*} flushed from its nest in old nesting hole of *Psephotus* [47] ... Head into Coen-Pt Stewart road, through good country all the way. More old nests and numerous places where the *Psephotus* had started to build noted; no birds seen [48]. Strike road three miles above camp and return along it ... Get back to camp 4.30 pm. Lunch, and set to work on the birds; get three done and leave the others till the morning.

Friday, 5 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0873.jpg] Skin the other bird. This pair [44, 45] would not have started nesting for some time. Start to blow eggs. Those of *chrysopterygius* taken yesterday almost hatching [37]. Managed to blow them but had to make big holes. Load up and start off back to Coen midday. Call in at Silver Plains Stn. and did not get away for a couple of hours. On road again *P. personata* flushed nest 15 in ground stool grass 6 hard set eggs. Further on another flushed... [Img_0874.jpg] Search country on either side of track. Only old nests. Anthill parrot noted (4 pairs) [49. GSP-022a-obs, -14.085, 143.583 ± 500 m]. Head into 7 mile lagoon on left of track to camp for night...

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 195] Skin the other bird, and blow the eggs taken. Those of *Psephotus* taken yesterday almost hatching, had to make rather larger holes in them [37]. Pack up and start off back to Coen about midday. Call in at Silver Plains Station ... Get on road again ... [p 196] Search through the anthill flats on both sides of the road, only old nests of *Psephotus* noted. 4 pm: head in to 7 mile lagoon on left of track to camp for the night ... Reach lagoon, unload and fix up camp, then search for *Psephotus* till dark; only found two old nests [49].

Saturday, 6 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0875.jpg] ... Load up and start off. Work the country both side of the track. Old nests. Parrots frequently met with. About 200 yards from where I found deserted nest [50. GSP-022b- nest]. I saw a male *P. chrysop's* [51. GSP-022c-obs]. Search country all round. No nest A couple of miles further work big flat on right of track. Old nests everywhere. Pair of *P. chrysop's* seen a hundred yards away saw where the birds had recently started nest spire shaped termitarium [52. GSP-023a-nest, -14.103, 143.519 ± 100 m]. A mile further on another pair of *P. chrysops* seen [53. GSP-024a-obs, -14.111, 143.502 ± 1,000 m]. Old nests only noted. [Img_0876.jpg] Reach place where young noted 1-5-22, Take snap of termitarium then open it up to expose nest and take a snap of young. 7 young 6 with feathers and 1 small one. Remarkable nest of caterpillars in bottom of Parrots nest, which feed on excreta of young birds Secure several also part of their nest. Take 6 of the young Parrots [54. GSP-016c-capt]. Leave the small one. Cut piece out of another Termitarium to repair hole made to get snap of nest. Go on a mile and camp.

Lunch then go back and work thru long Anthill flat on right. Plenty of spire termitariums here. Found one nest parrot spire termitarium [55. GSP-025a-nest, -14.097, 143.453 ± 300 m]. Small [Img_0877.jpg] young. A couple of hundred yards away another nest [56. GSP-026a-nest, -14.097, 143.451 ± 300 m]. 2 fresh eggs. Spire Termitarium. Work rest of flat a few old nests noted [57. GSP-026b-obs].

Return past camp. Go upward a mile then work flat on left. Found a nest just started [58. GSP-027a-nest, -14.109, 143.424 ± 2,500 m]. 6 ft from ground big Magnetic Termitarium. Further on same flat another nest 4 ft Magnetic [59. GSP-027b-nest]. Half fledged young. Same kind of caterpillar nest in bottom.

Another nest. 4ft 6 in Magnetic [60. GSP-027c-nest, -14.109, 143.424 ± 2,500 m]. 1 fully fledged young [61. GSP-027d-capt, potential location for AM-O.27895]. Caterpillars in bottom of hollow. Just started pupate. Several of them had clustered together and bored through to outside to outside of Termitarium through the thinnest wall of the egg chamber of Parrot nest. Secure some. Further on I found an old nest from which young had flown some [Img_0878.jpg] time ago [62. GSP-027e-obs]. Cluster of cocoons in the nest wall of chamber, all the insects had emerged. Secure cocoons. Still another old nest last seasons [63. GSP-027f-obs]. Large cluster of empty cocoons. Secure them. Strike some bad bog country. Head back to camp. Find another nest of *P. chrysops*. spire termitarium [64. GSP-028a-nest, -14.102, 143.441 ± 500 m]. Small young just getting feathers. Colony of scavenger caterpillars in nest.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 196] ... Work through the anthill flats on both sides of the track, old nests of *Psephotus* frequently noted [50]; a single male seen, search closely all round the vicinity but could not find any fresh nests [51]. A couple of miles further on work through a big flat on right of track, old nests numerous. A pair of *Psephotus* seen, 100 yards away; found where these birds had recently started a nest in spire shaped termitarium [52]. A mile further on I saw another pair of *Psephotus*; search closely all round the spot, only old nests noted [53]. Reach the place where I found *Psephotus* nest containing well feathered young 1/5/22. Take a photo of termitarium, then open the nest to get a photo of the young, found it contained 7 young, one of which was still in the downy stage with scarcely a feather showing. Could not make out what was the matter with the bottom of the nest, it was heaving and undulating in constant movement; little heads were flickering out and in through trap door like openings. At first I thought it was alive with maggots; a few seconds later a number of the insects came right out of the bottom of the nest and started to eat up the excreta which one [p 197] of the young *Psephotus* had just voided. I then saw that the insects were caterpillars. In a couple of seconds the excreta was eaten up and the caterpillars at once disappeared into the bottom of the nest through the opening from which they emerged. I sat and watched them for some time; every now and again one or two caterpillars would come out and go exploring round the bottom and sides of nest. The young birds were frequently voiding excreta, and at times would get all over their feet and tail feathers; instantly the caterpillars would swarm out and devour it, eating up every scrap even off the feet and feathers of the young, thus the young birds were kept scrupulously clean. The young birds did not take any notice of the caterpillars. I took a photo of the nest and young ... I took six of the young for the purpose of rearing them and noting their plumage changes [54. GSP-016c-capt, potential location for AM-O.27895]. I now examine

the bottom of the nest. The trap door like openings proved to be the mouths of cocoons in which the caterpillars lived, these cocoons were lightly bound or matted with web, the interstices between being filled with the excreta of the caterpillars and the fine chipped dirt in bottom of nest. Secure a number of the caterpillars, and also a portion of the bottom of nest. Cut a piece out of another termitarium to repair hole I made in nesting chamber and replace the small young. Continue on; good big anthill flat on the right of track. A mile further on turn out and camp.

Lunch, saddle up again and ride back to examine the anthill flat on the right of track. Plenty of spire shaped termitariums on this flat. A female *Psephotus* flushed from its nest in one of them, could see into nest without opening it up; small young just hatched [55]. A couple of hundred yards further on I found another *Psephotus* nest in a spire shaped termitarium; the heap of dirt at base of termitarium appears quite fresh [56]. On looking into nest I could see 2 eggs, also apparently fresh, leave them. A few old nests also noted on this flat, all in spire shaped termitariums [57].

Return past camp and up along road for a mile, then work through big flat on the left of track; nearly all big magnetic termitariums. [p 198] Found a nest that had only just been started, 6 feet from ground in a big magnetic termitarium [58]. Further on I found another *Psephotus* nest 4 feet from ground in magnetic termitarium [59]; it contained half fledged young ones with the attendant colony of scavenger caterpillars. Tommy found the next nest, 4 feet 6 inches from ground in big magnetic termitarium [60]; it contained one fully fledged young one, which flew out and away when I went to look into nest. Tommy chased and caught it [61]. Open up nest and examine it. The caterpillars in this nest were just starting to pupate, a number of them had clustered their cocoons closely together and bored through to outside of termitarium at the thinnest part of the side of nesting chamber. Secure this cluster of cocoons. Further on I found an old nest, probably last season's [62]. The cocoons of the caterpillars were clustered together in thinnest wall of nest, but all the insects had emerged; secure cocoons. Another old nest [63] had quite a large cluster of empty cocoons in thinnest wall of nest; secure them. Strike some bad bog country. Head back to camp. Nearing camp I found another nest of *Psephotus*, 2 feet from ground in a spire shaped termitarium [64]; small young just starting to get their feathers with colony of scavenger caterpillars in bottom of nest ... Get back to camp at dark. Feed the smallest of the parrots, the larger ones would not attempt to feed.

Sunday, 7 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0878.jpg] ... Load up and start off 10 am. 3 miles on left, 3 places where Parrots just started nests [65. GSP-029a-nest, -14.105, 143.415 ± 500 m; 66. GSP-029b-nest; 67. GSP-029c-nest]. Half mile further pair flushed from [Img_0879.jpg] spire termitarium [68. GSP-030a-nest, -14.102, 143.409 ± 500 m], starting nest hole in 4 in, ♀ in hole. ♂ on top. A couple hundred yards away another pair flew from spire termitarium hole

in 3 in [69. GSP-031a-nest, -14.108, 143.407 ± 500 m]. Half mile Finch *P. nigrotecta* {*P. cincta atropygialis*} flushed from fresh Parrots nest [70. GSP-032a-nest, -14.099, 143.4 ± 500 m]. Its nest of grass. 6 eggs. Numerous old nests. Parrot nest [71. GSP-033a-nest, -14.098, 143.398 ± 500 m]. 7 ft Magnetic small young not long hatched. Female Parrot seen [72. GSP-034a-obs, -14.099, 143.398 ± 300 m]. Tommy saw male along road [73. GSP-034b-obs]. Good flat here all old nests [74. GSP-034c-obs].

A couple of miles further on I found a nest of parrot from which the young had only just gone [75. GSP-035a-nest, -14.091, 143.381 ± 500 m]. The caterpillars were bunching together and boring thru to outside of Termitarium in [Img_0880.jpg] thinnest wall of nest. Several more old last season nests noted. Reach foot of range 2 pm...

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 198] ... load up and get on road by 10 a.m. Work the flats on either side of the road. Three miles on, on the left, I found three places where *Psephotus* had been freshly starting to nest [65-67]. Half a mile further a pair of *Psephotus* flushed from a spire shaped termitarium [68], the male from the top of it and the female from nesting hole 2 feet from ground which was drilled in about 4 inches. A couple of hundred yards away another pair flew from a spire shaped termitarium in which there was a freshly drilled hole 3 inches deep [69]. [p 199] Half a mile on, a Finch (*P. nigrotecta* {*P. cincta atropygialis*}) flushed from a fresh *Psephotus* nest in magnetic termitarium [70] ... Several old nests of *Psephotus* noted on this flat. Further on I found a nest of *Psephotus* 7 feet from ground in a big magnetic termitarium; small young not long hatched, and attendant colony of scavenger caterpillars [71]. About 100 yards further on I saw the female *Psephotus* flying towards the nest [72]. Strike road again and Tommy, who had seen a male *Psephotus* just as I came along [73]. Good flat here, we both work it; only old nests noted [74].

A couple of miles further on I found a nest of *Psephotus* from which young had only just flown [75]. The caterpillars were just starting to cluster together at the thinnest wall of nest; no place to stow them, do not take them. Several more old nests of *Psephotus* noted before get to foot of range. Turn out here and boil the billy. Young parrots now feeding fairly well. Rest for an hour, then load up and cross range to camp on Station Creek.

Friday, 12 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0882.jpg] Morning light rain. Cleared up about 10-20 am Load up & start off out to 14 mile 11-30 am... Reach a camping place near 14 Mile about 5 pm. Unload & rig fly as there may be more rain tonight. Have a look at the Termitarium (noted 23-4-22) where *Psephotus* had just started nest. Deserted [76. GSP-012h-obs,

-13.828, 143.103 ± 5,000 m]. The birds had tried a couple more spire-shaped Termitariums here. None recently.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 199] ... make a start for the 14 mile by 11.30 ... [p 200] Reach a camping place near the 14 mile at 5 pm ... Have a look at termitarium where the *Psephotus* had just started to nest noted 23/4/22, deserted [76]; the birds had also tried a couple more close by and left them.

Saturday, 13.5.22

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0883.jpg] Turn out daybreak. Breakfast. Saddle up & start off to look at nests of *Psephotus* noted. One deserted [77. GSP-012i-obs]. The other that I thought the birds were still working now cont young [78. GSP-012j-obs]. It must have contained eggs when I first found it. The anthill flats extend for some miles here. Put in a few hours searching thru them. One nest from which the young had not long flown noted (cont added eggs & skulls of others) [80. GSP-012l-nest, -13.828, 143.103 ± 5,000 m]. No caterpillars in this nest.

Several last season's nests noted with empty cocoons of caterpillars in each [81. GSP-012m-obs, -13.828, 143.103 ± 5,000 m]. Also numerous. [Img_0884.jpg] Termitarium 6 ft high 13 in dia base 10 ½ diam at nest [82. GSP-012n-eggs, -13.828, 143.103 ± 5,000 m, NMV-BE5113]. Nest entrance 1 ft 10 in from ground 1 ½ in dia 3 in depth to egg chamber. Egg chamber 6 ½ in x 6 dia by 6 in deep Bottom of chamber 3 in below entrance. Eggs resting on bed of finely crushed antbed. 4 eggs 4 moths. One female & 3 males in top of egg chamber...

[Img_0885.jpg] Traces of birds (where they had started nests). No birds seen. Nearing camp again a female *Psephotus* flushed from nest in spire shaped termitarium [82 repeated]. Could see 4 eggs which appeared slightly incubated. Take snap of Termitarium then cut out section to take photo of eggs 4 small moths in egg chamber. Secure them. Wait for bird to return, in ½ hour female returned, no sign of male. Frightened her away. Thinking both birds would return. Wait hour, No sign of them. Search locality but could not find them. Getting late so return. Reach camp 2 30 ok Lunch & start back for Rocky Yard... Rocky yard 6 pm.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 200] Turn out at daybreak. Breakfast, saddle up and start off to look at nest of *Psephotus* noted 23/4/22. The first was deserted [77]; the other contained small young just hatched [78]. It must have contained eggs when I first found it. The anthill flats extend for miles here. Put in a few hours searching through them. Several old nests of *Psephotus* with the clusters of empty cocoons of the caterpillars in each [79. GSP-012k-obs]. Only one nest from which the young had flown this season [80], no sign of any caterpillars in this nest; the bottom of nest was literally caked with dried excreta of the young birds. Almost every spire shaped

termitarium bore traces of the birds, none of them recent [81]. Nearing camp again a female *Psephotus* flushed from a nest in a spire shaped termitarium [82]; on looking in I could plainly see 4 eggs, which appeared to be slightly incubated. Take a photo of the termitarium, then cut out a section to expose the whole of the nesting chamber. Four moths in the chamber, two of them coupling; evidently the moth responsible for the caterpillars. Secure and label them. Take a photo of eggs in situ ... Wait for the birds to return; half an hour later the female returned. Frighten her away again as I wanted to secure the male also. Wait an hour, no sign of either bird; search all round the locality but could not find them. Return to camp 2.30 p.m. Lunch, load up and start back for Rocky yard, 5 miles from Coen.

Turner (1923)

Found several old nests of *Psephotus* with the clusters of empty cocoons in each. I found only one nest from which the young birds had flown this season. There were no signs of any caterpillars in this nest; the bottom of nest was literally caked with dried excreta of the young birds On looking into another nest I could plainly see four eggs [82]. There were four moths in the nest, two of them coupling; evidently the moths responsible for the caterpillars. I secured them.

Sunday, 21 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0894.jpg] Load up & get on road again at sunrise. Get over range by 11:30 am. Examine nest of parrot noted {left blank for date} 4-2 of young fairly well feathered [83. GSP-014b-capt, potential location for NMV-HLW8546 and/or AM-O.27895]. Take them. Second nest 5 young & skeleton of one 2 well feathered [84. GSP-015b-capt, potential location for NMV-HLW8546 and/or AM-O.27895]. Take them. Caterpillars in both nests. Third nest noted [85. GSP-033b-obs]. 5 young [Img_0895.jpg] feathers just starting to open up do not take any. Snap of Termitariums. 2 nests noted building. A pair of Finch had taken possession of one & had laid 4 eggs [86. GSP-030b-obs]. The other was deserted [87. GSP-031b-obs]. Search this flat again but did not find any trace of the birds *Psephotus* building again. A mile further on saw a female *Psephotus* search the adjacent flat. No luck. Go on a couple of miles past Joes Lagoon & turn out for lunch. [Img_0896.jpg] nests *Psephotus* noted 6-5-22 {rest of page blank, see diary entry for further nest locations}.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 202]: ... get over the range and along to the first anthill flat by 11.30 am. Examine nest of *Psephotus* noted with young just hatched on {blank space left for date}; it contained 4 young, two of them fairly well feathered, take these and leave the small ones [83]. Colony of scavenger caterpillars in bottom of nest, secure them and put them in bottom of box in which I was carrying the young parrots. Go on to the second nest noted same day; [p 203] this nest contained 5 young and the skeleton of a sixth. Red meat ants had raided this nest and were carrying off the scavenger caterpillars, but not interfering with the young birds.

Take the two best feathered young and leave the others [84] ... Go on to *Psephotus* nest noted with small young 7/5/22 [85]; young now only just starting to get feathers; usual colony of caterpillars in bottom of nest. Go on to next *Psephotus* nest, from which birds flushed 7/5/22, a finch (*P. nigrotecta*) flushed from its nest. Open it up. The *Psephotus* had almost completed this nest before deserting it ... [86]. The other nest of *Psephotus* on this flat was also deserted [87]. Next flat, where three fresh started nests were noted 7/5/22, were all deserted [88. GSP-029d-obs, 89. GSP-029e-obs, 90. GSP-029f-obs]. Go on to where I camped 6/5/22 and turn out for lunch. After lunch go back up road a mile to examine *Psephotus* nests noted 6/5/22. First nest just started, 6 feet from ground, deserted [91. GSP-027g-obs]. Second nest noted half fledged young in magnetic termitarium, young had only just gone [92. GSP-027h-obs]; caterpillars had not yet started to pupate, so secure them. Third nest, in spire-shaped termitarium, contained 4 young almost full-fledged [93. GSP-028b-capt, potential location for NMV-HLW8546 and/or AM-O.27895]. Snap termitarium off on level with bottom of nesting chamber and take of couple of photos of the young, then take photo of bottom of nest to show how clean it is kept by the caterpillars; take these 4 young, also the caterpillars. Go back to lunch camp then along to flat on the right of track. First examine nest of *Psephotus* noted with 2 eggs 6/5/22 [94. GSP-026b-obs], nest deserted, eggs very much addled. The other nest on this flat noted with young same date contained 4 young. Snap off termitarium and take photo of the young; take two best feathered, place top of termitarium in position again and put other two young back in nest [95. GSP-025b-capt, potential location for NMV-HLW8546 and/or AM-O.27895]. Take a photo of the anthill flat. Return to camp and load up again. Examine nest of *Psephotus* noted building and near to which I saw the birds 6/5/22 [96. GSP-023b-obs]; nothing more had been done to it. Camp at sunset about 8 miles from Pt. Stewart.

Turner (1923)

A *Psephotus* nest contained five young and the skeleton of a sixth [84]. Red meat ants had raided this nest, and were carrying off the scavenger caterpillars, but not interfering with the young birds. Another nest contained four young birds almost full-fledged [93]. I broke off termitarium to the level of the nest and photographed the bottom of the nest to show how clean it is kept by the caterpillars.

Monday, 22 May 1922

Notebook (McLennan 1922a)

[Img_0897.jpg] One of the young Parrots got away. Took me about 2 hours to get him again. Get away about 10 am, nothing of note on road. Reach Port Stewart 1 pm.

Diary (McLennan 1922b)

[p 204] Turn out at daybreak. Feed the family. One of the best birds got away; Tommy and I had to chase it from tree to tree for nearly 2 hours before we could catch it again. Load up and get on road again, reach Pt. Stewart midday ... Boat leaves at daybreak in the morning. Get all my gear on board.

Appendices to Crowley and Garnett. 2023. Distribution and decline of the Golden-shouldered Parrot *Psephotellus chrysopterygius* 1845-1990

Reference

- McLennan WR. 1922a. *Field notes books of a collecting trip to Coen District, Cape York Peninsula, on behalf of H.L.White. 27 Aug 1921 to 22 May 1922*, Unpublished Field Note Books, Birds Australia Archives, Melbourne
- McLennan WR. 1922b. *Diary of a collecting trip to Coen District, Cape York Peninsula, on behalf of H.L.White*, Unpublished Diary, Department of Natural Resources, Brisbane
- White HL. 1922. A collecting trip to Cape York Peninsula. *Emu* 22: 99-116.

Appendix 4. Nest outcomes and specimen collections recorded by McLennan in 1922

The first seven characters in Location refer to Site Code (e.g. GSP-012) in Table S1 of Appendix 5, and are followed by the letters extracted for individual observations (extracted from the Record Code field).

Image numbers (e.g. [Img_1672.jpg](#)) refer to notebook entries (as presented in Appendix 3), for which no journal or page numbers were available.

Location	Found	Mound	Stage found	Observed outcome				Parrot collections				Reason for failure	Notes	
				Active	Fledged	Collected	Failed	Egg	Live chick	Female	Male			
Lagoon Creek flat, northwest of Coen														
GSP-012a/b/c/d	23 Apr	Conical	Eggs			23 Apr		5			1	1	Collected	"one of the spire termitariums" (McLennan 1922a: 184)
GSP-012e/i	23 Apr	Conical	Building				13 May						Abandoned	Conical mound assumed, as first nest in magnetic mounds not mentioned until 1 May 1922 (McLennan 1922b: Img_0853.jpg - Img_0854.jpg).
GSP-012f/j	23 Apr	Conical	Eggs?	13 May										"
GSP-012g/h	23 Apr	Conical	Building				12 May						Abandoned	"
GSP-012l	13 May	Conical	Just flown		13 May									No caterpillars. Added eggs and skulls of chicks. Conical mound assumed from "Almost every spire shaped termitarium bore traces of the birds" (McLennan 1922a: 200), and no mention of magnetic mounds.
GSP-012n	13 May	Conical	4 eggs			13 May		4					Collected	"nest in spire shaped termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0885.jpg).
Port Stewart, southeast of Coen														
GSP-018a	2 May	Magnetic	Finches											Finches. Unclear whether nest failed or fledged. "parrot holes in magnetic termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0860.jpg).

Appendices to Crowley and Garnett. 2023. Distribution and decline of the Golden-shouldered Parrot *Psephotellus chrysopterygius* 1845-1990

Location	Found	Mound	Stage found	Observed outcome				Parrot collections				Reason for failure	Notes
				Active	Fledged	Collected	Failed	Egg	Live chick	Female	Male		
GSP-019a	2 May	Unknown	Abandoned				2 May					Abandoned	Finches in old nests in vicinity. "Nests in both spire shaped and magnetic anthills" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0860.jpg).
GSP-018b	2 May	Conical	4 eggs & chick	2 May									" <i>P. chrysopterygius</i> flushed from nest spire shaped termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0860.jpg).
GSP-018c/d/e/f	2 May	Magnetic	4 eggs			4 May		4		1	1	Collected	"female flushed from its nest in a magnetic termitarium" (McLennan 1922a: 192)
GSP-020a	4 May	Unknown	Building	4 May									Several old nests noted, and three that had been started lately (McLennan 1922a: 184)
GSP-020a	4 May	Unknown	Building	4 May									"
GSP-020a	4 May	Unknown	Building	4 May									"
GSP-020c/d	4 May	None								1	1		"This pair would not have started nesting for some time" (McLennan 1922a: 184)
Port Stewart Road between Old Silver Plains homestead and the base of the range, south of Coen													
GSP-013a	1 May	Magnetic	Building	1 May									Magnetic mound assumed from "All magnetic termitariums here. <i>P. chrysopterygius</i> had been trying some" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0853.jpg-Img_0854.jpg)
GSP-014a/b	1 May	Conical	Young			21 May			2			Partially collected	2 chicks not collected. "a few spire shaped termitariums here second one I looked at a female <i>P. chrysopterygius</i> flushed" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0854.jpg)

Appendices to Crowley and Garnett. 2023. Distribution and decline of the Golden-shouldered Parrot *Psephotellus chrysopterygius* 1845-1990

Location	Found	Mound	Stage found	Observed outcome				Parrot collections				Reason for failure	Notes
				Active	Fledged	Collected	Failed	Egg	Live chick	Female	Male		
GSP-015a/b	1 May	Conical	Eggs & chick			21 May				2		Partially collected	3 chicks not collected. "nest in a spire shaped termitarium" (McLennan 1922a: 191)
GSP-016b	1 May	Unknown	Abandoned	1 May									More than one nest
GSP-016a/c	1 May	Conical	Advanced chicks			6 May				6		Partially collected	1 chick not collected. "Flush a bird from nest spire shaped termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0857.jpg)
GSP-017b	1 May	Magnetic	Finches				1 May	4				Abandoned	4 Parrot eggs behind 4 finch eggs. "nest in magnetic termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0857.jpg)
GSP-022b	6 May	Unknown	Abandoned				6 May					Abandoned	
GSP-023a/b	6 May	Conical	Building				21 May					Abandoned	"birds had recently started nest spire shaped termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0875.jpg)
GSP-025a/b	6 May	Conical	Chicks			21 May				2		Partially collected	2 chicks not collected. "one nest parrot spire termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0876.jpg)
GSP-026a/b	6 May	Conical	2 eggs				21 May					Abandoned	"2 fresh eggs. Spire termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0876.jpg). Addled eggs
GSP-027a/g	6 May	Magnetic	Building				21 May					Abandoned	"6 ft from ground big Magnetic Termitarium (McLennan 1922b: Img_0877.jpg).
GSP-027b/h	6 May	Magnetic	Advanced chicks			21 May							"Psephotus nest 4 feet from ground in magnetic termitarium" (McLennan 1922a: 197)

Appendices to Crowley and Garnett. 2023. Distribution and decline of the Golden-shouldered Parrot *Psephotellus chrysopterygius* 1845-1990

Location	Found	Mound	Stage found	Observed outcome				Parrot collections				Reason for failure	Notes
				Active	Fledged	Collected	Failed	Egg	Live chick	Female	Male		
GSP-027c/d	6 May	Magnetic	Advanced chick		6 May					1		Partially collected	Single bird collected after fledging. Assumed other chicks fledged. "Another nest. 4ft 6 in Magnetic" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0877.jpg).
GSP-028a/b	6 May	Conical	Chicks			21 May				4		Collected	"another nest of P. chrysops. spire termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0878.jpg).
GSP-029a	7 May	Unknown	Building				21 May					Abandoned	"three places where Psephotus had been freshly starting to nest" (McLennan 1922a: 198).
GSP-029b	7 May	Unknown	Building				21 May					Abandoned	"
GSP-029c	7 May	Unknown	Building				21 May					Abandoned	"
GSP-030a/b	7 May	Conical	Building				21 May					Abandoned	Finches occupied abandoned nest. "pair flushed from spire termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0878.jpg-Img_0879.jpg).
GSP-031a/b	7 May	Conical	Building				21 May					Abandoned	"pair flew from spire termitarium" (McLennan 1922b: Img_0879.jpg).
GSP-032a	7 May	Unknown	Finches									Abandoned	Unclear whether nest failed or fledged. "fresh Psephotus nest in magnetic termitarium" (McLennan 1922a: 199).
GSP-033a/b	7 May	Magnetic	Chicks	21 May									"a nest of Psephotus 7 feet from ground in a big magnetic termitarium" (McLennan 1922a: 199).
GSP-035a	7 May	Unknown	Fledged		7 May								
Total				35	8	4	8	13	17	17	3	3	
Percent					22.9	11.4	22.9	37.1					

Appendices to Crowley and Garnett. 2023. Distribution and decline of the Golden-shouldered Parrot *Psephotellus chrysopterygius* 1845-1990

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McLennan WR. 1922b. *Field notes books of a collecting trip to Coen District, Cape York Peninsula, on behalf of H.L.White. 27 Aug 1921 to 22 May 1922*, Unpublished Field Note Books, Birds Australia Archives, Melbourne

Appendix 6. Date of establishment of the earliest cattle stations on Cape York Peninsula

Date established	Cattle station	Sources
1874	Wrotham Park	a, b
1874	Boralga (including Boralga, Brixton, Delingur, Upper Laura and Red Bluff)	a
1877	Olive Vale	a, b
1877	Butcher's Hill	a, b
1879	Gamboola	a, b
1879	Laura	b
1880	Kings Plains	b
1881	Palmerville (cited as Palmervale)	a
1881	Springvale	a, b
1881	Strathleven	b
1881	Breeza Plains	b
1882	Silver Plains (initially Lalla Rookh)	a, b
1882	Batavia Downs	a, b
1882	Lakefield	a, b
1883	Koolburra	a
1883	Merluna	a
1883	Dunbar	c
1883	Langi (Archer River?)	a
1883	Van Rook	d
1884	Rokeby	a, b
1885	Van Rook	d
1887	Palmerville	a
1889	Delta Downs	e
1899	Inkerman	d
1900	Violet Vale	i
1901	Lochinvar	f
1903	Rutland Plains	a

Date established	Cattle station	Sources
early 1900s	Lilyvale	g
1930	Musgrave (Mary Valley & Artemis)	h

References

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- c Anon. 1883. The Hungerford-Clarke mystery. *Queensland Figaro* 21 Jul 1883. pp. 2-3.
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- e Kurtijar Aboriginal Corporation. 2020. Welcome to Delta Downs Station.
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- i Gostelow W. 1992. Transcript of OH 6/50 William (Bow) Gostelow interview 1992 by D Jackson on. State Library of Queensland, Brisbane. Downloaded 1 Jan 2022, but no longer available.