

Burke & Wills

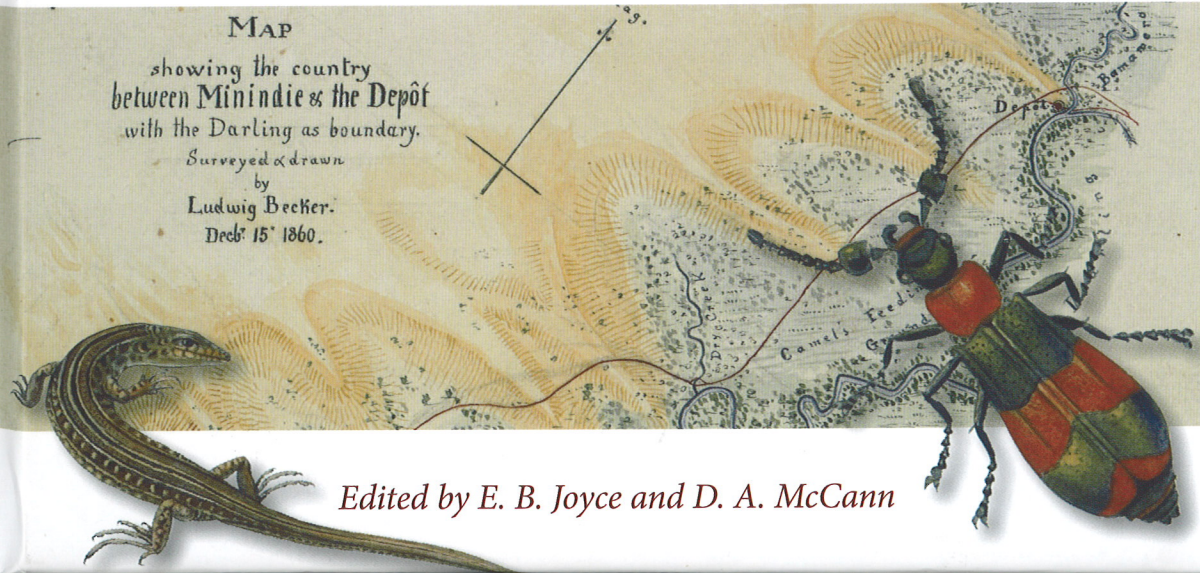


Darling Depot
Jan 15. 1861.

I saw three kind of pigeons in the country surrounding the Darling Depot.
 The larger one is bronze-winged and crested, next in size is one with a blue colored skin round the eyes; the third and smallest is sketched above. It was new to me and not met with until during the last days when I saw them for the first time. Size and color is faithfully taken from nature and the drawing is the best description I can offer of that elegant bird. It feeds on seed; its note is a deep, flute-like sound. The sketched represents a middle bird; the female is very like the male, but the spots on the wings are less in number, while the ends of the feathers on the top of head, some of the back, and the majority of those of the wings are fringed with markings of a lighter color. The native name for this pigeon is "gullömallä", for the large pigeon the native word is "göjstän", and for the middle-sized "göjgöng"; all imitations of the natural note of these handsome birds.

Ludwig Beckler

THE SCIENTIFIC LEGACY OF THE VICTORIAN EXPLORING EXPEDITION



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