

28. Grey Duck (*Anas superciliosa*), Parera.—Frequents the Hutt River, and occasionally the harbour about Point Howard, Lowny Bay.

Mollymawks (? species) very rarely enter the harbour. Whale-birds (Prions) sometimes are picked up dead on the beaches after storms. A couple or so years back a Bittern (*Botaurus poiciloptilus*), and a White Heron (*Egretta alba*) were shot near the mouth of the Hutt River, but none of these can be claimed as inhabitants of the district, only chance visitors, which, in the case of the White Heron, may not occur again for a lifetime.

Of introduced birds, all more or less common, there are many. They are:—Song Thrush (*Turdus musicus*); Blackbird (*Turdus merula*); Hedge Sparrow (*Accentor modularis*); Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*); Greenfinch (*Ligurinus chloris*); House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*); Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*); Redpoll (*Linota rufescens*); Yellow-hammer (*Emberiza citrinella*); Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*); Indian Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*); Skylark (*Alda arvensis*); Black Swan (*Chenopsis atrata*); Rock-dove (descendants) (*Columba livia*); Californian Quail (*Lophortyx californicus*); White-backed Magpie (*Gymnorhina hypoleuca*)—a total of sixteen.

I do not claim the above list to be complete. It is quite probable that other species of birds may be found—for instance, Dotterels, or some of the migratory shore birds. I have mentioned, however, all I have myself noted, or had authentically reported to me by careful and reliable observers, especially Dr. C. M. Hector and Mr. H. H. Travers, to whom I am much indebted.

Great Bower-Bird and its playthings.—I notice in Dr. Morgan's interesting account of his trip to North-Western Australia, in the January number of the *South Australian Ornithologist*, where he found several bowers of the Great Bower-Bird (*Chlamydera nuchalis*). He states there that he noticed that the birds in collecting glass, stones, etc., for ornamenting the back and front of the bowers, put the same coloured article in each patch, one being of dull green glass, another of lumps of charcoal, and so on; the colour of the glass in each patch was exactly the same. I have noticed in the bowers of these birds, not far from Cape Yorke, where the birds, having no glass, stones, etc., to collect, got flowers instead, they being very plentiful, but the birds did the same thing with the flowers: each patch they made was formed of flowers of the one colour, and although I saw many patches, they never mixed the colours, as far as I knew of, practically doing the same as Dr. Morgan found in North-Western Australia. Possibly other members may have noticed the same thing with other Bower-Birds.—W. LE SOUEF.