

was brownish grey, the brown element being shown up by contrast with the cleaner grey of the Wrybills, now in breeding plumage. Its under-parts were white. As it flew slowly around, showing a distinct whitish wing-bar, it confirmed our impression of a bird a little larger than a Banded Dotterel, but considerably smaller than a Red-breasted Dotterel. In September, of course, both these species would be in full breeding plumage. The time of arrival and the lack of colour in the plumage probably indicate that the bird was a juvenal.

By a process of elimination there seemed to be only one possibility for the identity of this small plover—*Charadrius leschenaulti*. Fortunately, a skin from Ceylon was available in the Auckland Museum. Kuroda's *Birds in Life Colours* proved most useful, and the *Ibis* (1870) contains a good account of the species by Harting. His description tallies exactly with the bird we saw. After enumerating the characteristics which had been noted by us, he adds that in winter the only trace of the ferruginous collar is a dusky hair-brown spot on each side of the breast; and the young has, in lieu of the pectoral band, a buff spot on each side of the breast.

For purposes of comparison we give measurements of this Asiatic dotterel and of the small New Zealand plovers—

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus
Wrybill . . . . .	122 mm.	30 mm.	30 mm.
Banded Dotterel . . . . .	125	18	30 (Oliver)
Red-breasted Dotterel . . . . .	165	29	36 (Oliver)
Geoffroy's Sand-Plover . . . . .	132-144	22.5-26	34-38.5 (Kuroda)

Harting and Peters give Geoffroy's Sand-Plover a tremendous winter range, including South Africa, Madagascar, India, Moluccas, Australia and the Solomons; so that there is nothing inherently impossible in a straggler's occasionally reaching New Zealand. At the time of writing Bull is back in New Zealand from the Solomons, where he has become familiar with *Charadrius leschenaulti* in various phases of plumage.

We have no doubt that, on the strength of the bird which we saw in Manukau Harbour, the species should now be added to the New Zealand list.

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**Silver Gull at Wallangarra.**—Unusual observation at Wallangarra, New England Range, South Queensland, was a Silver Gull (*Larus novæ-hollandiæ*) which flew at low altitude over the town. I have been informed that Silver Gulls have been observed before, flying over this mountainous district. Wallangarra is approximately 3,000 feet above sea-level and ninety miles inland from the coast.—  
LAWRENCE C. HAINES, Sydney, N.S.W., 25/7/45.