My thanks to Mr. G. Hicks, Secretary to the Metropolitan Water Sewerage and Drainage Board, for information about the location of Sydney's early water reservoirs, and to Mr. J. R. Kinghorn for notes on the methods used in earlier times for recording and storing specimens in the Australian Museum.

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Dotterels Swimming.—Although most species of dotterels spend a great deal of time walking about in shallow water, it is only rarely that a bird has been known to settle on water out of its own depth and swim for a short time.

In 1916, Dr. A. M. Morgan (S.A. Orn., 2 (5), 123) described a remarkable diversionary display by a pair of Red**kneed Dotterels** (Erythrogonys cinctus). In the course of the display the birds fell on to water as if shot, but later they rose easily from the water.

While observing a small flock of this species at the lagoon which had been filled, at the time, at Craigie's Plain, Hundred of Brownlow, south of Bower, S.A., in October, 1941, I disturbed the birds, and one of them alighted on water about a foot deep. After floating quite easily for several minutes it flew off without difficulty.

Bruce Amos (Emu, 49 (1), 58, 1949) recently reported a Double-banded Dotterel (Charadrius bicinctus) swimming on the Victorian coast.—E. F. BOEHM, Sutherlands, S.A., 12/8/50.