

- ELLMAN, J.B. 1861. Brief notes on birds of New Zealand. *Zoologist* XIX.
- GALBREATH, R. 1989. *Walter Buller: the Reluctant Conservationist*. Wellington: G.P. Books.
- GUTHRIE-SMITH, H. 1925. *Bird Life on Island and Shore*. Blackwood.
- HUTTON, F.W.; DRUMMOND, J. 1904. *Animals of New Zealand*. 1st edition. Whitcombe and Tombs.
- HUTTON, F.W.; DRUMMOND, J. 1928. *Animals of New Zealand: an Account of the Dominion's Air-breathing Vertebrates*. 4th edition. Whitcombe and Tombs.
- KNOX, G.A. (ed.). 1969. *Natural History of Canterbury*. Wellington: Reed.
- McKENZIE, H.R. 1965. Field Study Course, Kaipara Harbour, January 1965. *Notornis* 12: 70-79.
- MONCRIEFF, P. 1925. *New Zealand Birds and How to Identify Them*. 1st edition. Whitcombe and Tombs.
- MONCRIEFF, P. 1957. *New Zealand Birds and How to Identify Them*. 5th edition. Whitcombe and Tombs.
- OLIVER, H.C. 1968. Annotated Index to Some Early New Zealand Bird Literature. Wildlife Publication No. 106, Dept. Int. Affairs, Wellington.
- OLIVER, W.R.B. 1930. *New Zealand Birds*. First edition: Wellington.
- PIERCE, R.J. 1984. Breeding success of isolated pairs of Caspian Terns in Canterbury. *Notornis* 31: 185-190.
- POTTS, T.H. 1870. On the birds of New Zealand. *Trans. NZ Inst.* 2: 40-80.
- POTTS, T.H. 1882. *Out in the Open: A Budget of Scraps of Natural History Gathered in New Zealand*. Lyttelton Times.
- SEEBOHM, H. 1885. *History of British Birds*. R.H. Porter & Dulau & Co. London.
- SIBSON, R.B. 1964. Caspian Terns in the lower Waikato. *Notornis* 10: 413-414.
- SIBSON, R.B. 1978. Caspian Terns in Manukau Harbour. *Tara* 11: 5-7.
- SIBSON, R.B. 1978. Annual Report of the Miranda Naturalists' Trust. Caspian Terns in Firth of Thames.
- STEAD, E.F. 1932. *Life Histories of New Zealand Birds*. London: Search.
- TURBOTT, E.G. (Convener). 1990. Checklist of the Birds of New Zealand. The Checklist Committee, Ornithological Society of New Zealand.
- VEITCH, C.R. 1979. Kaipara Harbour - Easter 1978. *Notornis* 26: 289-296.

R.B. SIBSON, 580 Remuera Road, Remuera, Auckland 5



SHORT NOTE

Egg predation by Black-backed Gull

On 30 October 1991, in bright conditions, I was watching waterfowl from a hide on the shore of Matata Lagoon. An adult Southern Black-backed Gull (*Larus dominicanus*) alighted on the water about 40 metres from me, carrying in its beak a smallish brown egg. After a pause, the bird soared about 30 metres in the air, dropping the egg, which apparently broke on the surface of the water. The bird immediately followed and devoured it, the yolk content being clearly visible. With 8 x 30 binoculars and a colour photograph taken at a distance of about 40 metres, the egg appeared in size and colour to be that of a Banded Dotterel (*Charadrius bicinctus*).

G.J.H. MOON, P.O. Box 60175, Titirangi, Auckland 7