

the short, quiet call she used with the chicks. Later, Darby brought an opened tuatua, seemed to look for a chick and finally left the tuatua untouched on the dry sand. On 23 December, Joan was listlessly standing near the nest site, often lifting her broken wing. Darby was busy chasing oystercatchers south of the creek. This was the last occasion when Darby and Joan were seen.

ALAN B. JONES, 34 Buffalo Beach Road, Whitianga.



## SHORT NOTES

### A FURTHER GREY-FACED PETREL COLONY

Some years ago, Medway (1966, *Notornis* 13: 17 and 1967, *Notornis* 14: 223) recorded the presence of breeding colonies of Grey-faced Petrels (*Pterodroma macroptera*) on coastal cliffs and stacks at Pukearuhe and Tongaporutu, North Taranaki. At that time he postulated the existence of further colonies within the area. This present note records the occurrence of such a further colony, 10 km southward of the Pukearuhe sites.

On 23 January 1978, I was shown a small group of "mutton-bird" burrows by Messrs P. and J. Carr, Urenui, who had known of them for a number of years. The colony, about 2½ km north of the Urenui River mouth, consists, apparently, of about half a dozen mainland burrows and a smaller as yet unascertained number on a stack about 20-30 m off-shore. Several of the mainland burrows had been occupied during the previous breeding season and a few feathers were present at the entrances. The burrows are confined to a narrow (c. 3 metre) strip of taupata (*Coprosma repens*) and flax (*Phormium tenax*) atop 10-15 m mudstone sea cliffs.

This colony may well be the most southern mainland breeding colony of Grey-faced Petrels as it is near the limit of the coastal cliffs apparently favoured by the species in Taranaki.

R. E. LAMBERT, *Taranaki Museum, P.O. Box 315, New Plymouth.*

### GOLDEN PLOVER ON BOARD SHIP

Early on 12 September 1978, when *Marama* was at 24°50'S 177°45'W, a Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) was noticed flying around the ship and attempting to land on board. In this it was eventually successful, and it was seen a number of times during the day in various parts of the vessel. In the evening it was caught and placed in a bathroom for the night, where it was seen to eat finely chopped meat, and to drink fresh water. It was released at 31°26'S 178°22'E on 13 September. It flew around the ship twice before heading off southward. The weather on the 12th was heavily overcast with heavy rain and on the 13th was partly cloudy and fine.

JOHN JENKINS, 14 Lochiel Road, Remuera, Auckland.