

Schaanning, the veteran ornithologist of the Stavanger Museum, Norway, in the *Ibis*, 1929, p. 38. Now Schaanning has given an extended account, accompanied by a beautiful coloured plate, in a paper on the whole of Karen's surviving material of his Siberian expedition—'A contribution to the ornithology of eastern Siberia', *Nytt Magasin for Zoologi*, vol. 2, 1954, pp. 91-115. A photostat copy of Karen's original label and a photograph of one of the parent birds, both of which were procured by the collector, are also included. The specimens were held at the Stavanger Museum whilst Schaanning was studying them, but after his death they were transferred to the Zoological Museum, Oslo, where the reviewer had the privilege recently of examining them.

The nest was found at 1,500 feet elevation on a barren mountain ridge, probably near a larch forest on the mountain side overlooking the Kolyma delta. Schaanning remarks that "the eggs have a very characteristic colour, quite unlike the colour in all other wader eggs known to the author". Comparisons by the reviewer suggested a resemblance with some eggs of the Dunlin, Sanderling and Green Sandpiper, though all of these are smaller. Schaanning's plate is a good reproduction, but the eggs are more heavily spotted and rather darker at the blunt ends than his figure indicates. Though no other eggs have been collected, the Russian ornithologist, Portenko, later found downy young at the Anadyr River.—D.L.S.

Correspondence

To the Editor.

Sir,—We are now in our ninth year of duck-banding, and I am at present analysing the returns. In general it would appear that our native Grey Duck disperses widely after the breeding season, but the introduced Mallard rarely cruises more than 25 miles from the place of banding. Recoveries of Grey Ducks have been reported from the length and breadth of the country and two bands have even been reported from the Chatham Islands.

I have often wondered if one of our bands would ever be reported from Australia. I have only recently returned from a long stay in America to find that a Grey Duck was supposedly recovered in one of the eastern Australian states in either 1950 or 1951. These rather hazy reports have come in from three independent sources. Apparently the recovery was reported in the newspapers.

As this case is of great interest to us it would be very much appreciated if you could spare the space to insert a query in *The Emu* concerning the fate of this duck.

Yours, etc.,

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