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from the ground, and the bird sat quietly, notwithstanding we were camped about five feet away from the tree. There was a single egg, the incubation of which had probably lasted for about seven days.' There is a difference between the nest and eggs taken by Mr. French's collector and the last found by Mr. Le Souëf. For all that, after critical examination, I am not prepared to say that they are not of the same species, only found under different conditions—one taken inland in a dense scrub, the other found by the sea-shore on an island. The nests are similarly constructed, while the general colour of the eggs is alike, with the exception that one is spotted, the other streaked. However, the nest and egg now exhibited by Mr. Le Souëf may be described as follows:—

“*Nest*.—Somewhat loosely constructed of broad dead leaves and green branchlets of climbing plants and fibrous material. Inside may be seen two large concave-shaped dead leaves underneath pieces of dry tendrils which form a springy lining for the egg or young to rest upon. Measurement in centimetres—over all, 19 broad by 9 deep; egg-cavity, 9 across the mouth by 4 deep.

“*Egg*.—In shape nearly oval, but a little stouter about the upper quarter. Shell somewhat lustrous. Ground-colour of the egg of a fleshy tint, streaked in various lengths and breadths, longitudinally, with reddish brown and purplish brown. The markings commence near the apex, which is bare, and extend about halfway down the shell, and assume the appearance of having been painted on (boldly at the top and tapering downwards) with a camel-hair or such-like brush. Many of the markings are confluent, the longest single one being 1.23 cm., by a breadth of .23 cm. There are also a few small spots near the lower quarter, and one large blotch of reddish brown which has a smudged appearance. Length of the egg 3.14 cm.; breadth 2.32 cm.”

Mr. Campbell very kindly forwarded me a photograph of the egg taken by Mr. French; but as there seems to be some slight doubt as to the identification of this specimen, I give the accompanying representation of the nest and egg of the Victoria Rifle-bird taken by Mr. Le Souëf, who has kindly forwarded me a photograph of them.



He has given the following account of the taking of the nest, in the 'Victorian Naturalist' for February 1892:—“We left again during the afternoon and scrambled over the island, still searching for the nest of the Rifle-bird. A fair number of the birds showed themselves, but it was a difficult thing to discover any nests in such thick vegetation, and we thought our task a hopeless one. Once we came across a large nest built of leaves, and, thinking it might be the one we wanted, one of us sat down a short distance away and watched it quietly to see whether any birds came to it. A male Rifle-bird soon put in an appearance and uttered its grating kind of note. It clung to a vine and went through all sorts of antics, one favourite position being to stretch its expanded wings above its head until the tips touched, and then hiding its head behind them and bending its body from one side to the other. After going on for about a quarter of an hour it flew away. Shortly after returning to the camp, we again heard the female Rifle-bird near us, so we determined to watch her movements. Mr. Barnard went to one side of the small patch of scrub and I went