

## **"DON'T GIVE US AWAY."**

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### **Plea of Rare Birds.**

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If one happens to see a rare native bird, it is most unwise to report the locality, except to the Forest and Bird Protection Society, which can be trusted to keep the secret. A certain type of collector will be only too eager to take advantage of any information which will enable him to commit a crime—the killing and skinning of a very valuable specimen.

The same remark applies to an animal such as the fur-seal. Newspapers are being requested to refrain from publishing reports which would help poachers (including collectors), to take the lives of creatures which have protection in law—but, alas, not always in fact.

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### **TAME TUIS AND BELL-BIRDS.**

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A letter from E. N. Priest, schoolboy of Makirikiri, Wanganui, to the Forest and Bird Protection Society:—

I found a bell-bird with its wing out of joint, and nursed the bird till it was right.

When I was over on the river-bank two kingfishers came and sat on a bough not far from me, and a thrush flew up and commenced a fight. I have learned something, for I thought a kingfisher was afraid of thrushes, but they put up a good fight and drove the thrush off.

My tuis and bell-birds are still with me. Four tuis and two bell-birds disappeared for a few weeks and returned with young ones. I have now seven tame tuis and six bell-birds. The latter are poor singers; for what reason I don't know.

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### **OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS.**

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Go feed the birds, and cage them not,  
God gave to them their little lot.  
They have a little life to live;  
Destroy it not, but give, O give!  
Add to their noble little day.  
Ah, cherish them—nor take away.  
They're helping us at every turn;  
Yet we their leafy homes would burn.  
They have a little life to live;  
Take not away, but give, O give!

—F. E. RICHARDSON.