

## THE GREY WARBLER.

We have now to discuss the grey warbler (*Maorigerygone igata* Q. and G.), sometimes misleadingly known as "native wren," but more appropriately called riroriro in imitation of its beautifully trilled note. Quite as much as the fantails, though in itself not so conspicuous, the little riroriro has adapted itself to the conditions of settled areas—in some places to such an extent as to have become independent of the native bush. This adaptation has had two consequences: its services to agriculture other than forestry have been tremendously augmented, and its eggs have become liable to find a place in the collections of small birds' eggs bought indiscriminately by local bodies, &c. All may recognize without difficulty the grey warbler, with its sober grey plumage relieved by spots of white visible in the tail when it is expanded to aid the fluttering of this little insect-hunter at the tips of twigs too slender to support even its fairy weight. The nest is even

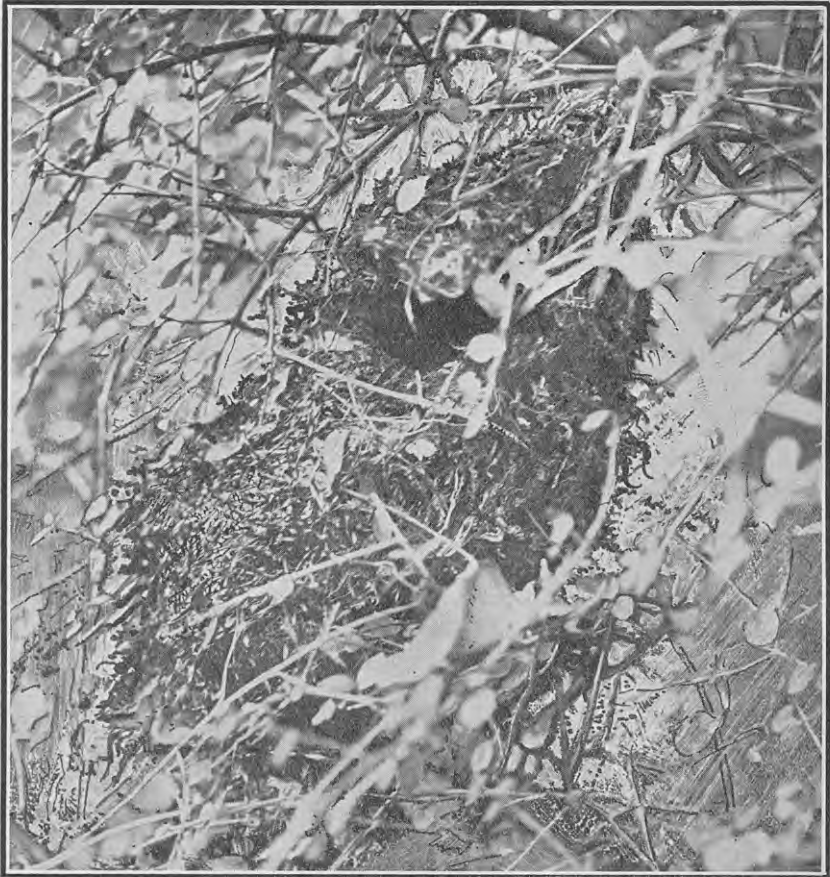


FIG. 1. NEST OF THE GREY WARBLER. ABOUT TWO-THIRDS NATURAL SIZE.

[Photo by E. B. Levy.]