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Wrybill: pp 127-128.

Wrybill (Ngutu pare) *Anarhynchus frontalis* Quoy & Gaimard 1830, Endemic
25/2/1827 North Shore, Waitemata Harbour, Auckland

The zoologists on the French explorer *Astrolabe* found this species in small flocks on the mudflats of the Hauraki Gulf (Quoy & Gaimard 1830). The *Astrolabe* had visited the Hauraki Gulf, passing between the main coastal islands on the west side of the Gulf during 25–27 February. Quoy and Gaimard shot a Wrybill on the 25th, when they landed on the North Shore in Waitemata Harbour (Fleming 1983). Gray (1861) said it was “represented in the ‘Voyage of the *Astrolabe*’ with a deformed bill. The bill is perfectly straight in most specimens”.

Potts (1871) described its breeding habits forty years later. Potts (1870) called it the “Crook-billed Plover”, Bowdler-Sharpe (1875) & Buller (1878), the Wry-billed Plover in 1878, but Buller later reverted to the Crook-billed Plover. In 1888, he settled on Wry-billed Plover. The famous bent bill is an ecological adaptation, and is not a sufficient reason to separate the Wrybill into a separate genus according to Holdaway et al. (2001). A molecular study by Baker et al (2007) found that the Inland Dotterel *Charadrius australis* and the Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythogonyx cinctus* formed a clade with the Wrybill.