

attached to a stronger line, and then to a one-inch rope which is hauled over the limb and down to the ground. The ladder is now attached and drawn up into position, the end of the guy line being made secure to a heavy log or tree-trunk. The ladder is 120 feet in length and is made of the best Manila rope with rungs of sound cedar. For the sake of convenience it is made in two lengths, and may be rolled up and fitted into a bag.

All the photo. blocks were engraved by Messrs. Patterson, Shugg and Co., 256 Elizabeth-street, Melbourne.

About Members.

HERRN Adolph Nehrkorn, Braunschweig, Germany, is the first foreign member to join the Australasian Ornithologists' Union. Herrn Nehrkorn possesses one of the largest scientifically-classed egg collections in the world—nearly 4,000 species. Although he has bequeathed his great collection to the Berlin Museum, he retains possession of it during his lifetime, for, notwithstanding his three score years, he is still an active collector.

Very general regret will be felt at the announcement that, owing to continued ill-health, Dr. William Snowball has retired—for the present, at all events—from his practice, to reside at his country residence at Longwarry, Gippsland. On account of his great skill, his enforced retirement, even for a short period, will be a public loss as far as suffering humanity (especially children) is concerned, while his metropolitan oological friends will miss much his pleasant chats about their mutual hobbies.

Mr. Edward Degen, formerly of the National Museum, Melbourne, and whose name has been mentioned in the "Beginnings" of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union, has been engaged as zoological collector to an expedition organized by Colonel Harrington, the British Consul-General at the Court of King Menelik, Abyssinia. A start is to be made by caravan from Zaila, on the Somali Coast. "From Zaila," Mr. Degen writes in a letter to one of the editors, from London, "this journey will be 500 miles overland to the capital, Ades Abbeta, which for some time we shall make our headquarters. From here excursions into the different districts will be made in all directions, while Lake Tsana or Dembea will be made the object of thorough investigation from a piscine standpoint. Of course big game will also receive due attention, likewise the avifauna its due share. The return journey will be made down the Blue Nile, through the Dar Berta country and contiguous mountains, to reach the Sobat River, called Addena at its head-waters. On reaching the White Nile, south of Fashoda, we shall follow this mighty artery to Khartoum, and in due course hope to reach Cairo." Mr. Degen expects the trip will occupy about nine months' time.

Since Mr. A. W. Milligan's arrival in Perth from Victoria he has presented no less than one hundred and twenty-five birds and twelve mammals to the local museum, in addition to other help he has given, and so, to mark their appreciation, the Committee, at the suggestion of the Director, Mr. Bernard Woodward, have offered to Mr. Milligan the position of Honorary Consulting Ornithologist, which all concerned are glad he has accepted. Mr. Milligan's enthusiasm in the field may be judged by the fact that his new Bristle Bird (*Sphenura litoralis*) was shot by himself in the South-West after a four days' chase. This interesting bird lives in the dense coastal scrub, and runs through cover instead of taking wing over it. In fact, Mr. Milligan only obtained his type specimen by firing into the bush whence the bird's notes came, and so frightened it into flight, when with a shot at a long range from his second barrel he secured the prize.

Correspondence, &c.

THE American Ornithologists' Union has 44 active, 16 honorary, 62 corresponding, and 616 associate members. Grand total, 738.

A member in New Zealand writes:—"I received the second instalment of *The Emu* not many days ago. It is a very good number, and the editors are to be congratulated on the general 'get up' and the sustained interest of the magazine. Should suitable contributions become scarce after a time, which is hardly likely, I shall be pleased to contribute a paper now and again."

Mr. Edwin Ashby, Adelaide, sends a leaflet from the Trans. Roy. Soc. of S.A. (1901), containing "A List of Birds" collected by himself in Western Australia during the end of August last. Forty-two species are enumerated (with brief notes), shot mostly at Speakmans, a locality situated about 85 miles north of Coolgardie. Mr. Ashby must have worked very assiduously, because he only spent five days there, collecting mostly at early morn. He claims the Chestnut-rumped (*Acanthiza uropygialis*) as "the first record of south-western Australia." The Black-throated Butcher Bird (*Cracticus nigrigularis*) may be claimed on the same grounds. Unfortunately, owing to a typographical error, Mr. Ashby's name was made to read Ashley on page 47 of the previous issue.

IMPORTANT.—*This part (No. 3, enlarged) concludes Vol. I. of "The Emu." Loose parts are liable to get mislaid or damaged, and as the journal is likely to become a valuable reference, members are urged to have their copies bound in accordance with the advertisement on the wrapper.*