

South Australian Ornithological Association.

THE monthly meeting of this Association was held on Friday evening, 25th November. Business included correspondence concerning the introduction of the Mallee-Fowl into Kangaroo Island. The secretary was requested to push the matter on, as the season was far advanced. A long discussion took place in reference to the extension of the close season for game, and it was thought by the majority of the members that if the season were extended to 10th January it would give the birds a chance. Several cases of shooting birds in close season were brought forward, and it was with the greatest regret that members listened to such flagrant breaches of the law and wanton cruelty. The remainder of the evening was taken up by a narrative of the last expedition under the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union to the Great Barrier Reef, last October, which was read by Capt. S. A. White. A list of the birds noted during the expedition, as well as their habits, &c., was read by Mr. J. W. Mellor. A number of specimens were exhibited from these localities, principally the Capricorn Islands.

Notes and Notices.

PODARGUS CALLS.—In Mr. Mattingley's article, p. 246, six "ooms" should read six "calls."

WANTED.—If any member has copies of vols. i., ii., iii., or parts thereof, of *The Emu*, which they wish to sell, will they please communicate with the hon. secretary, R.A.O.U., stating price, &c.

PRIOR NAME.—In re 358A, *Psephotus chrysoterygius blaauwi*, Van Oort, in "Notes from the Leyden Museum," xxxii., p. 71 (1910), this bird is the same as *P. cucullatus*, North.—G. M. MATHEWS.

NEW SUB-SPECIES.—*Munia castaneithorax assimilis* differs from *M. castaneithorax* (Gould) in having the chestnut band on the chest much darker in colour and the upper tail coverts rich chestnut-brown. Wing, 55 mm. *Hab.*—Eureka, Northern Territory.—G. M. MATHEWS. *Bulletin B.O.C.*, No. clxiv.

A CORRECTION.—Referring to the highly interesting photo. blocks that accompany Mr. Tom Iredale's article on the Kermadec Islands in this volume, it should have been stated that the original negative of Plate II. was taken by Mr. W. L. Wallace, and those of Plates III. and V. were by Mr. R. B. Oliver.

EXTENSION OF LOCALITY.—In a small lot of skins sent to me from the Northern Territory was a skin of *Aphelocephala nigricincta*, ♂ (No. 691, "Handlist"). This bird was obtained for the first time by the members of the Horn Scientific Expedition, when two males and a female were collected by Mr. Kearland. It was described by Mr. A. J. North in *The Ibis* (1895), and is fairly well figured on plate 7 in the "Report of the Horn Scientific Expedition—Aves" (1896).—G. M. MATHEWS. Watford (England), 28/10/10.

TRIP TO THE TUNNEL DISTRICT, TASMANIA.—Mr. P. C. Thompson forwards some interesting notes of birds observed in the above-mentioned locality during October last. He was accompanied by Mr. O. L. Adams, another member of the R.A.O.U. What struck the observers first was the fact that, while birds were hatching in the Launceston district, at the Tunnel very few species were even building. About three dozen species were noted, including the rare endemic *Acanthornis magna*, or Scrub-Tit, a specimen of which was obtained for museum purposes.

NOISY SCRUB-BIRD (*Atrichia clamosa*).—Regarding the original finding of the nest of this species, mentioned in Campbell's "Nests and Eggs," page 1,080, I may state that Mr. J. Hassell, *not* A. T. Hassell, was in company with Mr. E. A. Hassell when the nest was found. I was shown the locality, and the scrub amongst which the nest was built appears to be a dwarf species of tea-tree (*Melaleuca*), which, growing to a height of from 2 to 4 feet, forms comparatively open spaces in the midst of the dense "marlock," or "mà-lock," scrub, that extends over great areas of that district.—TOM CARTER. Broome Hill, 27/10/10.

A COCKATOO'S VOCABULARY.—A White Cockatoo (*Cacatua galerita*) in the possession of Mr. J. R. Clayton, Prahran, during a sudden downpour of rain and hail to which it was exposed in the yard, gave voice to the following utterances as fast as an observer could take them down in shorthand. All the time the bird was ducking its crested head and waving outstretched wings:—"Cup of tea, Thyra"; "Hip, hip, hurra"; "Hullo, Silver"; "Hullo, Thyra"; "Here you are"; "Come on"; "Hullo, old fellow"; "Hullo, Maggie"; "Have a drink"; "Hullo, Cocky"; "Good-bye, Tommy"; "Hip, hip, hurra"; "Hullo there"; "Do you want a drink, Thyra?" "Hullo, Thyra"; "Pretty Thyra"; "Have a drink"; "Do you want a drink?" "Pretty Cocky"; "Hullo, Cocky"; "Do you want a Thyra?" "Hullo, Margo"; "A cup of Thyra"; "Pretty Joey"; "Hullo"; "Hullo, Tom"; "Maggie"; "Cocky"; "Have a cup of tea, Tom"; "Hullo, Silver"; "Oh dear, oh dear," &c., &c.

BIRDS OF THE CAPRICORN ISLANDS (*Emu*, vol. x., p. 195).—The name of the Roseate Tern (*Sterna gracilis*) was inadvertently omitted from the "draft" list when the list for publication was being compiled. This bird was noticed on North-West Island and at North Reef. Mr. J. W. Mellor writes:—"A bird that the compilers of the list failed to record is the White-fronted Heron (*Notophoxyx novæ-hollandiæ*). These birds were identified on North-West Island, but were not so plentiful as the Reef-Heron."