

South Australian Ornithological Association.

THE monthly meeting of the South Australian Ornithological Association was held in the Royal Society's rooms, Adelaide, on 29th November, 1912. The president, Mr. Edwin Ashby, was in the chair. In answer to a request from a resident of Kangaroo Island it was resolved that a suggestion be made that *Dacelo leachii* or *D. cervina* be introduced into the island. Mr. H. E. Laffer showed specimens from Roseworthy of *Neophema elegans*, *Glycyphila albifrons* (a new locality for this bird), *Rhipidura albiscapa*, *Cinclorhamphus rufescens*, and *Malurus assimilis*. Mr. M. S. Clark exhibited heads of the Wandering Albatross (*Diomedea exulans*) and Sooty Albatross (*Phœbetría fuliginosa*), and Dr. A. M. Morgan sterna of an Albatross, Prion, Tern, and Plover, the three latter showing a striking similarity. Mr. Edwin Ashby exhibited specimens of *Malurus pulcherrimus* and *M. elegans*, recently received from Western Australia, *M. lamberti*, collected by himself early in November in the Richmond Ranges (N.S.W.), and a series of *M. assimilis*, from South Australia, showing distinct variations in the blue shades. Mr. Ashby also showed specimens of *Malurus melanocephalus* and *M. cyano-chlamys*, both collected during the present month in the Richmond Ranges (N.S.W.) It was pointed out that the northern form of the latter species, as indicated by Dr. Sharpe, is much paler than the form inhabiting South Australia and Victoria. Skins of the southern form, *M. cyaneus*, and *M. cruentatus* were also shown for comparison. Mr. F. Robert Zietz exhibited, from the South Australian Museum collection, a series of the following Petrels:—*Oceanites oceanicus*, *Pelagodroma marina*, *Puffinus leucomelas*, *P. chlororhynchus*, *P. griseus*, *P. tenuirostris* (and an albino), *Æstrelata neglecta*, *Macronectes gigantea*, *Prion vittatus*, *P. banksi*, *P. ariel*.

Bird Observers' Club.

THE monthly meeting of the Bird Observers' Club was held on Wednesday evening, 21st August, at the Mia-Mia Tea Rooms, Collins-street. Mr. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., occupied the chair. A letter was read from Major J. M. Semmens, Chief Inspector of Fisheries and Game, stating what action he had taken with regard to the complaints about illegal shooting of game during the close season. Mr. F. E. Wilson read extracts from the *Daily Mail* of 13th July, 1912, concerning the work being done by Mr. James Buckland in bird protection. The chairman stated that he had posted copies of Mr. Buckland's pamphlet on that subject to all the principal newspapers in Australasia and New Zealand, to members of the Federal and State Parliaments, and to other persons likely to be interested in the subject. The result of the ballot in connection with the proposed new rules for the Club was made known. After considerable discussion it was decided that the suggestions for which the majority had voted be adopted as new rules. Mr. A. J. Campbell stated that at the last outing of the B.O.C. to the haunts of the Lyre-Bird (*Menura victoriae*) only five members attended. They had a delightful trip. Mr. Clarence Weber was unanimously elected a member of the Club. Mr. A. J. Campbell, on behalf of Mr. H. L. White, of Belltrees (N.S.W.), exhibited the type specimen of the Lesser Satin Bower-Bird (*P. minor*), described in Bulletin No. 3 of the R.A.O.U. The skin was obtained in December, 1903.

The "Murder-Bird."—I have just learnt that there is an "expedition" now at the Stirling Ranges, W.A., trying to obtain specimens of the "Murder-Bird." I forecast that it will prove to be either *Ninox connivens* or one of the still larger Owls. I was at the locality two years ago.—TOM CARTER.