

dinner. At the meeting afterwards the host was voted to the chair. After discussion it was resolved to limit the twenty-five memberships for the present to gentlemen, but lady associates would be admitted up to the number of five. The following papers were read and discussed:—"A Trip to the West," by E. B. Nicholls; "A Trip to Gembrook," by E. J. Christian; "On the Ejectment of Young by the Cuckoo," by A. Mattingley. Mr. C. L. Barrett exhibited two types of Scrub-Wrens' eggs, Mr. A. G. Campbell skins of various Acanthizas, while the host showed numbers of interesting trophies obtained during his trying experiences in the memorable siege of Ladysmith, notably a portion of a dark "mealy" loaf—his last day's ration served in the beleaguered city.

Notes and Notices.

"A Dichotomous Key to the Birds of Australia" is issued as a "Supplement" to this number of *The Emu*. Any members requiring extra copies of the "Supplement" may have them at one shilling each (postage extra) on application to the hon. sec. of the A.O.U.

A conference, representing New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia, was held in Melbourne recently to deal with the question of the Murray River fisheries. Amongst resolutions agreed to was the following:—"That it be recommended that action be taken by each of the States with a view to the destruction of Shags, Pelicans, and turtles in inland waters."

At a meeting of the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria held 14th August, 1905, Mr. H. J. Coles stated that during the past few weeks seventeen Grass-Owls (*Strix candida*) had been forwarded to him from various localities. Fifteen of the birds had been picked up dead, and were in very poor condition.

In connection with the next (Adelaide) Annual Session of the A.O.U., the hon. sec., Mr. A. E. Mattingley (address, Custom-House, Melbourne) has issued the following circular:—

"The fifth Annual Congress of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union will be held in Adelaide from 11th to 13th of October, and the Council would be glad if as many members as possible were to attend. Thereafter (on the 14th October) will be a 'working excursion' to and 'camp-out' at Kangaroo Island, for about 10 days. Those who intend to camp will need to bring blankets and eating utensils; other necessities will be supplied. Members leaving Melbourne by evening express on the 10th October can obtain a return ticket through the hon. secretary at the cost of £2 5s. It is the intention of the President of the Marine Board of South Australia to place the steamer *Governor Musgrave*, which will be visiting Kangaroo Island, at the disposal of members who intend camping out. The total cost of the 'camp-out' will therefore be about £1 or £1 5s. The hon. secretary would be glad to know if you will be able to attend, and the title of the paper, if any, you desire to contribute to the Congress."