South Australian Ornithological Association.

THE last meeting of the above-mentioned Association was held at Dr. Pulleine's rooms, North-terrace, Dr. Pulleine presiding. The hon. secretary (Mr. J. W. Mellor) directed attention to a copy of the Royal Society of Arts Journal, which contained a report of an extensive lecture delivered by Mr. J. Buckland before the society in London recently. The pith of the subject was the appalling destruction of bird life throughout the world for decorative millinery, and the necessity of passing on the warning note to the colonies, lest an invasion should take place of these fell plume-hunters. It pointed out that the new play, "Chantecler," which is having such a run in London is tending to a revival in feather head-dressing for women—in fact, to the wearing of entire birds-which was to be deplored. A letter from the Commissioner of Police was read, stating that action had been taken M.C. Wells, of regarding the catching of Seagulls at Port Adelaide. Murray Bridge, was highly commended for his zeal in enforcing the Birds Protection Act which was splendidly illustrated by the recent case in his district. Capt. White directed attention to a letter received from a resident of Kangaroo Island, stating that the writer was watching with much interest the attempt to introduce the Mallee-Fowl on the island to save this quaint bird from extinction, and also stating that in his opinion the birds in question would, with protection, thrive well on Kangaroo Island. He was sure too much could not be done to protect the native birds and animals. Mr. J. H. Clark, a visitor, exhibited several sets of eggs of unusual colouration, taken at Bendigo (Vic.) and Broken Hill (N.S.W.) Some of these specimens completely puzzled oologists. Mr. J. W. Mellor recounted interesting observations made during a recent trip on the Murray River, when 32 species of birds were identified. Mr. A. Crompton stated that he had seen Black Cocketoes (Calubtorhymchus famorous) in unusual numbers feeding on Black Cockatoos (Calyptorhynchus funereus) in unusual numbers feeding on burnt ground, evidently in search of partly roasted banksia nuts. These observations had been taken in the Innian Valley district, where he had spent his vacation. Capt. White gave interesting observations of bird life gathered at the Reedbeds during the month, among which were notes on the little Pied Cormorant, its great liking for a small species of crayfish which inhabited all fresh-water rivers, creeks, and dams, and did a great amount of damage to all canal and water embankments, as well as destroying the spawn of fishes, on which they mainly subsist. It was shown that by the destruction of these crustacea the Cormorants were doing the agriculturist and the fishing industry much good. Several interesting specimens were exhibited

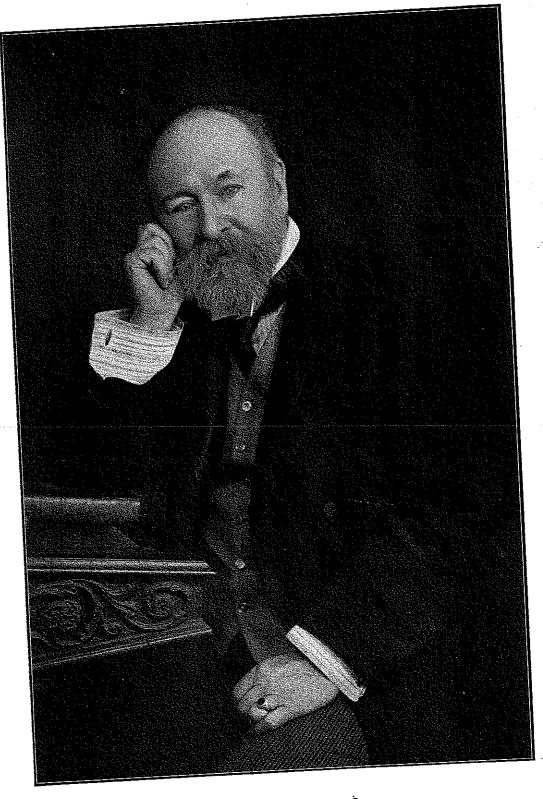
Notes and Notices.

THE GREAT AUK.—There are a few remaining volumes of Mr. Symington Grieve's excellent work on the "History, Archæology, and Remains" of the recently extinct Great Auk or Garefowl (Alca impennis), to be had on application to Mr. James Thin, 54–56 South Bridge, Edinburgh. Price, 10s. 6d.

"Handbook of the Birds of Tasmania."—Attention is directed to a review of this book, page 66. Copies may be had on application to the author, Mr. Frank M. Littler, F.E.S., Box 114, Post-Office, Launceston, Tasmania. Price 4s., with postage extra (postage—Commonwealth 4d., New Zealand 7d., elsewhere 1s. 3d.)

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PLATE VIII.



Jours omeorely Aboutler Sharps ANOTHER COUNTY BIRD BOOK.—An important work on the birds of Dumfriesshire, by Mr. Hugh S. Gladstone, will shortly be published by Messrs. Witherby and Co., of High Holborn, London. The book will give an exhaustive account of the present day status and past history of all the birds of the county, and will be illustrated by photographic plates and a map. It will be published by subscription, and in a strictly limited edition.

THE GOULD BIRD LEAGUE.—Attention is directed to the inset certificate of the Gould Bird League, which was inaugurated by the Bird Observers' Club, Victoria. The certificate speaks for itself, and can be obtained by any citizen of the Commonwealth of Australia or of the Dominion of New Zealand, on payment of one penny, with postage added (postage, 1½d. within or 3d. beyond Victoria). Hon. secretary's address: Mr. J. A. Leach, M.Sc., Education Department, Melbourne.

ROYAL THANKS.—On the death of His Majesty King Edward VII., and the consequent accession of His Majesty King George V. (who, with Queen Mary, is a patron of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union), the Council of the Union forwarded a congratulatory message to King George on the occasion of his accession. The following reply has been received from the Private Secretary to Lord Dudley:—"The Governor-General has been commanded by His Majesty King George the Fifth to convey to you his sincere thanks for the loyal and congratulatory message which you were good enough to send in connection with His Majesty's accession."

THE LATE DR. R. B. SHARPE.—The excellent and characteristic likeness (Plate VIII.) of this ornithological savant was received too late to accompany the obituary notice which appeared in The Emu, vol. ix., p. 178. It is now quite opportune, if taken in conjunction with the following practical suggestion made by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant in The Bulletin of the B.O.C. (No. clvii.):—"It is sad to think that, after 38 years of the most faithful and unselfish service to the nation, Dr. Sharpe should not have been spared for a few years to enjoy his thoroughly well earned pension. As it is, his wife and children are left insufficiently provided for, and it is greatly to be hoped that some special means may be found of obtaining a pension for the family of so valuable a public servant."

BIRDS OF THE TANAMI GOLDFIELDS.—Mr. M. Symonds Clark, Adelaide, has kindly supplied the following information:—

"I have reviewed a letter, dated 31st March, 1910, from Mr.

Lionel C. E. Gee, warden of goldfields at Tanami, in the Northern Territory, who says:—'I came across a very interesting collector, a bird-catcher by business, and whose partner is now in England with a consignment of birds. . . . I had a long conversation with him about the birds in this remote part of the world. He kindly made out for me the enclosed list of the birds he had noticed as occurring in this district, and I send it to you, as I am sure your friends of the ornithological society will be interested in it.'

will be interested in it.

"I think many of the readers of The Emu will be glad to see this list, which I send on to you for publication. On it you will see is a note* by Mr. Gee, who takes a great interest in birds, and has had opportunities of observing them in many distant parts of South Australia and in the Northern Territory. When at Arltunga, in the M'Donnell Ranges, he obtained, with great trouble, some living specimens of the Alexandra Parrakeet, which he brought to Adelaide and kept until shortly before his

departure for Tanami."

Dromæus novæ-hollandiæ Synæcus australis Turnix velox Geopelia cuneata Ægialitis melanops Ochthrodromus veredus Eupodotis australis Malacorhynchus membranaceus Circus assimilis Uroaëtus audax Milvus affinis Falco lunulatus Hieracidea berigora Cerchneis cenchroides Cacatua leadbeateri * Calopsittacus novæ-hollandiæ Melopsittacus undulatus Ægotheles novæ-hollandiæ Halcyon pyrrhopygius Eurostopus argus, Cuculus inornatus Chalcococcyx (sp.?) Petrochelidon ariel Micræca pallida Petræca picata Smicrornis flavescens Rhipidura tricolor Coracina robusta Lalage tricolor

Pomatostomus superciliosus Cinclorhamphus cruratis Ephthianuva tricolor Acanthiza (sp.?) Malurus cruentatus M. cyanotus M. assimilis Amytornis striatus (?) Artamus personatus A. minor A. cinereus Collyriocichla brunnea Grallina picata Cracticus picatus Pachycephala falcata Aphelocephala nigricincta Sphenostoma cristatum Neositta leucoptera Dicæum hirundinaceum Pardalotus rubricatus Melithreptus lætior Myzomela nigra Ptilotis keartlandi Mirafra secunda Emblema picta Tæniopygia castanotis Corvus coronoides Oreoica cristata Certhionyx leucomelas

OBITUARY.—At the Adelaide session of the A.O.U., Mr George R. Marriner, F.R.M.S., Curator Public Museum, Wan-

^{*} The salmon colour pervades this bird all over very strongly, and I think it is a different variety to that seen in the south.—L. C. E. G.