



Mr. Lawson Whitlock, R.A.O.U. Mr. Alan Morrison, late Gov. Botanist, W.A. The late A. W. Milligan.

The Camp of the late Mr. A. W. Milligan, Hon. M.R.A.O.U., Wongan Hills, W.A.

Obituary

MILLIGAN.—On the 30th March, 1921, at private hospital, St. Kilda, Alexander William, dearly beloved husband of Rebecca Milligan, of 56 Kooyong-road, Caulfield; aged 63 years. (By request, no flowers.)

The late Mr. A. W. Milligan was an original and honorary member of the R.A.O.U. Not only was he a born Nature-lover, but in every sense of the word he was an ornithologist, both in the field and at cabinet work. His first contributions to the science appeared in early numbers of *The Victorian Naturalist*, and latterly in *The Emu*.

In addition to an excursion to Queensland and many outings in Victoria, the late Mr. Milligan's more important expeditions were in Western Australia, notably "South-Western Australia" (*The Emu*, ii., p. 68); "The Stirling Range" (*The Emu*, iii., p. 9), and "The Wongan Hills" (*The Emu*, iii., p. 217, and iv., p. 2). Herewith is given, in connection with the last-mentioned trip, a hitherto unpublished photo. of a camp-scene, which depicts the author, gun in hand, at the tent door, the central figure being Dr. Alan Morrison, late Government Botanist, W.A.

The following new species were described by our deceased member:—*Icanthiza robustirostris* (*The Emu*, iii., p. 71); *Amytornis housei*, *Aphelocephala castaneiventris* and *Mirafra woodwardi* (see pl. 13, *The Emu*, iv.); *Gymnorhina longirostris* (*The Emu*, iii., p. 96). There are besides three good Western varieties—*Sphenura littoralis*, *Amytornis gigantura* and *Ptilotis novæ-norciæ*. When residing at Perth, where he was for 11 years, he was Honorary Consulting Ornithologist to the Western Australian Museum. Some beneficial fruits of that office members were well pleased to notice during the last (Perth) Session of the R.A.O.U. On his return to Victoria he was, until compelled to resign by ill-health, a painstaking successful Honorary Secretary of the R.A.O.U.

As one of the members of the committee that prepared the Union's Official Check-list, Mr. Milligan was chiefly responsible for the proper representation of the technical matter. He was against (for the time being at least) encumbering the list with trinomials, and was in favour of the principle of priority, so long as it did not confuse or clash with the best interests of ornithology.

The late Mr. A. W. Milligan, who was born at Sulky Gully, near Ballarat, in 1858, was the eldest son of the late Mr. James Milligan, and was educated at Guildford, near Castlemaine. He followed a legal profession, his last appointment being with Messrs. Hedderwick, Fookes and Alston, Melbourne. Mr. Milligan, as a friend or servant, had an unimpeachable character for the strictest integrity. His ripe and valued, but unobtrusive, advice, frequently given in connection with the Union's affairs, will be much missed. On behalf of every member of the R.A.O.U., we tender our sincere condolence to Mrs. Milligan and to the other relations of the late Mr. A. W. Milligan.