

Campbell, Hall, Ross, Mattingley, Dr. Bryant, Wilson, Leach, Williams, Thompson, Barrett, Nicholls, Hamilton, Mellor (Adelaide), Cole, Chandler, Tregallas, and Howe (hon. secretary). After dinner a number of visitors arrived. Mr. Campbell was elected to fill the chair. Apologies were received from Messrs. Godfrey, Shepherd, and Macdonald. The chairman read a letter from Mr. Le Souëf, who was then in London. Mr. Le Souëf was present as a guest at a meeting of the British Ornithologists' Club, where he met Mr. C. F. Belcher, another member. Besides doing other good work, Mr. Le Souëf was instrumental in unearthing two skins of the extinct Tasmanian Emu at the British Museum. The find has delighted the authorities as well as Mr. Le Souëf. The bird was distinct from the mainland form of Emu. The chairman, in welcoming Mr. Mellor, as guest, paid high tribute to his zeal in matters pertaining to ornithology. Mr. Mellor, in responding, earnestly urged members to do their utmost for the preservation of our avifauna, which was being ruthlessly destroyed everywhere. Mr. J. A. Ross read a paper entitled "A Trip to the Mallee." The journey was taken by himself, Mr. Mattingley, and the hon. secretary during September. The paper was well received, and was beautifully illustrated by photographs taken by Mr. Mattingley. Many of the pictures depicted Mr. Charles M'Lennan (well known to bird lovers by his contributions as "Mallee Bird"), who acted as guide to the party. Dr. Bryant moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Ross, who gracefully replied in a few well-chosen words.

The ordinary (December) meeting of the Club was held at the Thistle Luncheon Rooms, Elizabeth-street, Melbourne. At the invitation of Mr. Robert Hall, there were present Messrs. F. P. and R. P. Godfrey, Campbell, Ross, Mattingley, Leach, Barrett, Nicholls, Chandler, Cole, Thompson, Tregallas, and Howe. Apologies were received from Messrs. Shepherd, Christian, and Batey, and papers were received from the two last-named gentlemen. The exhibits were plentiful and varied, Mr. Ross showing combination (Cuckoo) clutches—*Rhipidura albiscapa* with *C. flabelliformis*, and *Pycnophilus floccosus* with *C. variolosus* (?). He also exhibited a nest of *Pycnophilus* taken in sword-grass (*Lepidosperma*). Mr. Cole's exhibits were adults and young of *Cinclorhamphus rufescens* and a nest of *Ptilotis penicillata* showing egg of *Cacomantis pallidus* woven into the bottom, and merely held by a few grasses. Mr. F. P. Godfrey showed the rare egg of *Orthonyx spaldingi*. Mr. Hall, with the aid of a map, greatly instructed members by taking them in thought over the ground explored by himself and Mr. Trebilcock (of Geelong) in Siberia. He also dealt with the distribution of birds, and mentioned many interesting species that were not familiar to most of his audience. After supper was served, Mr. Campbell made reference to the loss the Club would sustain by the enforced absence of Mr. Hall, and wished that gentleman every success in his new sphere in Tasmania. Mr. Hall, in responding, wished members the "compliments of the season," and hoped that, although he was out of sight, he would not be out of mind of the members of the B.O.C.

South Australian Ornithological Association.

THE ordinary meeting of this association was held at Dr. A. M. Morgan's residence, Angus-street, Adelaide, on Thursday evening, 5th September. Dr. Morgan presided. There was a good attendance. The secretary read a letter from the Secretary to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, in reply to a communication from the association, having reference to shooting on the powder magazine reserve, contrary to notices placed on all sides of the enclosure. No offenders had yet been brought to book, and it was urged that the authorities should be asked to reserve this land for totally

protecting bird-life, and keep watchful eyes in order to have the provisions of the *Birds Protection Act* carried out. The protection of the Nankeen Kestrel was discussed, and thought advisable, owing to its useful habits in killing mice and other vermin, while the imported Goldfinch and Black-bird were now so numerous and harmful that they should be totally unprotected. A large number of exhibits was shown to illustrate and compare notes and observations taken by members upon the genus *Ptilotis*. Mr. A. H. C. Zietz, F.L.S., and Mr. E. Ashby showed specimens from various parts of Australasia, and included rare species of this honey-eating family of birds. Mr. F. R. Zietz and Dr. Angove also showed stuffed birds—the former three species of Field-Wrens (*Calamanthus*), and the latter the smallest Emu-Wren (*Stipiturus ruficeps*), from Western Australia. Dr. A. M. Morgan and Mr. R. Crompton exhibited birds' eggs, Dr. Morgan's contributions consisting of those of the Great Bower-Bird and the Koel. Mr. J. W. Mellor exhibited *Acanthizas* from Tasmania, including the Brown-tailed and Ewing Tits and an albino of the latter. Mr. A. H. C. Zietz reported having received two Emu eggs from Melville Island, the first that had been procured in that locality.

The late Professor Alfred Newton.

IN connection with the notice of the late Professor Newton in the last issue of this journal (p. 113), it was thought that members of the A.O.U. would approve of a likeness of the deceased ornithologist, therefore one is herewith given (plate xii.) reproduced from the October number of *British Birds*. Besides for his great attainments, the late Professor was held in affectionate friendship by many of his correspondents, the same as was the late beloved Baron von Mueller.

Notes and Notices.

OOLOGY.—Mr. H. L. White, A.O.U., Belltrees, Scone, New South Wales, desires to purchase certain rare Australian birds' eggs. None but well-authenticated full clutches will be considered. Reference, Mr. A. Mattingley, hon. secretary A.O.U.

THE SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE.—The hon. secretary of the A.O.U. has received the following letter from Leverett Mills Loomis, Director of the California Academy of Sciences:—"At a meeting of the California Academy of Sciences held 5th August, 1907, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—'Resolved that the thanks of the California Academy of Sciences be tendered to the Council of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union for its generous contribution of *The Emu* to the library of the Academy. Coming to us as it does in the hour of our disaster, it has given us renewed hope and courage.'"