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Correspondence.

TO THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE, *The S.A. Ornithologist*.

Sirs,

The following letter was written and sent to the Editors of *The Emu* by me to be published in the April number of that journal.

I did not receive any official answer to it, but a letter from a visiting ornithologist, stating the Council wished him to inform me that the Council did not intend publishing the letter. Later I received a letter from a member of the Council stating the correspondence on this subject was closed. Now, I cannot see any reason why the correspondence should be closed, unless it is that too much daylight is being let into the unprogressive state of ornithology as expounded by *The Emu*. I am taking these steps solely for the enlightenment of the young school of ornithology in Australia, that they may move along with our leaders, the scientific and progressive thinkers of the old world, for should they stand still like some conservative ornithologists seem determined to do, then in a short time they will have a mighty lot to pick up. As a renowned American ornithologist has written to me:—"Were there a gathering of American ornithologists to take place anywhere, and a discussion of a certain genus were to come up, it would be quite out of question for a binomialist in the group to make himself understood, at any rate he could not comfortably keep up with the conversation."

If all Australian ornithologists would study Mr. G. M. Mathews's "A List of the Birds of Australia, 1913," it will be seen that the author has dealt with the R.A.O.U. Check-list in a most masterly fashion.

I am, etc.,

S. A. WHITE.

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