

**Notes on the Ground Parrot and Other Parrots.**—Mr. W. S. Campbell, who is now 89 years of age, has a remarkable memory, and his recollections of the wild life inhabiting the environs of Sydney, upwards of sixty or seventy years ago, are full of interest. Recently Mr. Campbell wrote me about the Ground Parrot (*Pezoporus wallicus*). In the same letter he commented upon the original illustration from a collection of early paintings in the Mitchell Library, a photographic copy of which appeared in *The Emu* (Vol. XXXII., 1933, pl. 33). His remarks, together with some notes on Parrots generally, are quoted below:—

From what I can remember of this parrot, the illustration seems to me to be too long in the body and the tail is rather long, but it is a great many years since I have seen a ground parrot. When a youngster, about seventy years or so ago, I used to see several in our paddock near the Parramatta River, seven miles from Sydney, or five in a direct line. I am under the impression that they used to feed on the tubes of several species of orchids which then grew plentifully everywhere. The *Diuris* seemed to be the favourite. This at one time was made use of by the blacks, whose women dug them up with their "yam sticks" just as they dig up wild yams and grass roots in the Northern Territory. . . .

We used to have thousands of parrots at times when the Blackbutts (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) were in blossom, which occurred irregularly. I had a paddock of about three acres of these trees which I preserved. About sixty years ago the trees all blossomed at the one time and then the row! days and nights. We always had a few parrots knocking about, Budgerigahs, Rosellas, etc.

—K. A. HINDWOOD, R.A.O.U., Willoughby, N.S.W., 7/8 33.