Bowdler Sharpe Collection

always heard it pronounced
i-gwana, or rather as if
spelt. ig-wah-na. 3
syllables not 4.

Mpatoane. Kokstad
E Griqualand. S.A.
Jan: 30.95

Dear Sir.

I am staying at this
part for a few years. and am
interested in studying the ornithology
of the district. shall be glad if
I can be of any use to you, in a
humble way. as to the birds of
this part of S.A. I read with
much interest your splendid book
of S.A. birds. There is at present
in use of the plantations here
a Secretary bird's nest. & I have
been watching the young of the
family. there were at first 2
them. but are disappeared at
a very early age. how I know
not. however as the survivor
reared still the rest perhaps it
is an advantage. I am astonished

at seeing the female bird has eggs in both the upper wonderful, at knowing that another bird had them. Is there any other instance amongst birds of this? The legs of this specimen do not hang through the interstices of the nest. in fact there are none to hang through. but he has not legs!! I am thinking of getting up a ladder some day & trying to get a rough shot of the nest & family "in situ". There are also on the same tree several weavers birds' nests. If I get a good rough shot & you care for a copy I will send you one. When the old bird was sitting she allowed me once to stand right under the tree & call out before she stirred. in fact I could have made her move. now that the young bird is a good size, the mother & father spend the night in a neighbouring tree.

There was also after hundreds of years this week the nest of a Blue crane with one egg in it.

Is the animal called an iguana a real iguana? because in imports they always give it as a native of S. America &c. one killed one here the other day. I must apologise for writing so much, but I dare say you will be glad of information on local birds.

Remain
Yours faithfully
Herbert B. Blathwayt.

The people on here call it the i-gu-ana. I have