

OBITUARY NOTICES
OF
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JOHN LUBBOCK, BARON AVEBURY—1834–1913.

THE first Lord Avebury, for many years better known as Sir John Lubbock, died on May 28 last, in his 80th year. He was the eldest son of the third Baronet and Harriet, daughter of Captain Hotham, of York. He was educated at Eton, but left at an early age to join his father in the family bank. He married firstly Ellen the eldest child of Peter Hordern, and some years after her death, in 1879, Alice Augusta Laurentia, daughter of the late General A. A. Lane-Fox Pitt-Rivers, and grand-daughter of the second Baron Stanley of Alderley. In 1865, he succeeded his father as fourth baronet, five years later he became Member of Parliament for Maidstone, and held this seat until 1880, when he was elected representative of the University of London. This seat he held until 1900, the date when he was removed to "another place," as Baron Avebury.

Lord Avebury took an active but restricted part in politics. His most prominent efforts were directed to the establishment of Bank Holidays, but he devoted much time and attention to educational questions and social reform. Without having had a University training he was yet peculiarly fitted to be a representative of a University, being a man of wide culture as well as a very competent man of business. For many years he was head of the great banking company, Robarts, Lubbock and Co., and by his tireless activity and ceaseless care for detail, he became a very prominent man in City circles. This attention to detail and his knowledge of procedure made him an admirable President; and, indeed, he seems to have presided over nearly every scientific society and countless mercantile associations. At various dates he was President of the British Association (Jubilee Year), the Entomological Society, the Ethnological Society, the Linnean Society, the Anthropological Institute, the Ray Society, the Statistical Society, the African Society, the Society of Antiquaries, and the Royal Microscopical Society. He was also the first President of the International Institute of Sociology, the President of the International Association of Prehistoric Archaeology, the International Association of Zoology, the International Library Association, the London University Extension Society, and the first President of the Institute of Bankers, President of the London Chamber of Commerce, and of the Central Association of Bankers.

For eight years he was Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, and he was also Principal of the Working Men's College. He sat on many a Royal Commission, and left his mark on those on the Advancement of Science, on Public Schools, on International Coinage, on Gold and Silver, and on Education. He was perhaps less happy as President of the Committee which selected the designs for our present coinage.

At the time of his death, Lord Avebury, although he retained a house in London, had given up his house in St. James's Square, and he died at Kingsgate Castle, Kent. Another of his country residences was High Elms, Down, and it may have been the association of Darwin and Avebury at this small Kentish village that first attracted Lord Avebury's attention to natural history.

One of his first books, and perhaps one of the most stimulating, was 'The Origin of Civilisation and the Primitive Condition of Man,' now in the sixth edition, a book which aroused interest and research in the past in many quarters. It was characteristic of him when he had to select a title for his peerage to choose that of Avebury, the preservation of whose prehistoric remains he had taken so large a part in securing. At the time of his last illness he was engaged in revising and partly rewriting a seventh edition of his well-known 'Prehistoric Times.'

Without being a great researcher, Lord Avebury took a very prominent part in encouraging the research of others. Of his more scientific works, perhaps his monograph (published by the Ray Society) 'On the Collembola and Thysanura' has proved most useful; for a long time it was the authoritative work on these lowly insects, and still is so, especially with regard to the Collembola, whose distinction from the Thysanura was first recognised by the author. But many of his other works passed into numerous editions: 'British Wild Flowers, considered in Relation to Insects,' reached the sale of 11,000 copies; 'Ants, Bees, and Wasps' passed into the seventeenth edition; and his works on 'Seedlings' and on 'Buds and Stipules' contained much that is valuable and well worthy of record.

He wrote two geological works which are still used with profit by students of the Universities; one on 'The Scenery of Switzerland,' and the other, published ten years ago, on 'The Scenery of England,' and several treatises on more strictly economic lines. His works on Coins and Currency, on Free Trade, and on Municipal, and on National Trade, occur to one's mind. But apart from these more or less technical publications, Lord Avebury had a genuine "flair" for writing books which the public want. Both parts of 'The Pleasures of Life' sold over 200,000 copies, and Part I over a quarter of a million, besides being issued in no less than forty foreign editions. 'The Use of Life' and 'The Beauties of Nature' were hardly less successful, and everyone will remember his "Hundred Best Books."

As the foregoing will show, Lord Avebury was a man of singularly diversified activities and extreme width of interest. That he should find occasion in the middle of a busy business career to do the work he did is indeed amazing, but he was precise and very business-like, and knew how to make the most of his time.

He had after his name an alphabet of Honorary Degrees and memberships of Learned Societies. It need hardly be said that he was covered with honours too numerous to enumerate. He was Lord Rector of the University

of St. Andrews, Trustee of the British Museum, and Foreign Secretary to the Royal Academy. He served five distinct periods on the Council of the Royal Society, the last being in the year 1906-7, and was three times Vice-President. He was Commander of the Legion of Honour, and held the German "Ordre pour le Mérite."

A. E. S.

PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER—1829-1913.

PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER was born in November, 1829, at Tangier Park, in Hampshire, where his father, Mr. William Lutley Sclater, then resided, though he shortly after moved to Hoddington House, another estate in the same county, not far from the old home of Gilbert White, where his boyhood was passed.

In 1842 he went to Winchester College and was elected a scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in 1845, but being under age was not called into residence at the University until the following year. At Oxford he devoted his studies chiefly to mathematics, but at the same time he occupied much of his spare time in the pursuit of natural history, his speciality, as in after life, being ornithology. While at Oxford he was fortunate in becoming acquainted with H. E. Strickland, and at his house he met John Gould, shortly after the return of the latter from Australia. It was from them that he received his first serious instruction in ornithology, and it was during his Oxford days that he commenced his collection of birds.

In 1849 he took his degree, obtaining a first class in Mathematics and a pass in Classics, but he remained for two years longer at college before proceeding to his M.A. degree. During this time he also studied modern languages and became familiar with French, German, and Italian, spending as much of his time as he could spare on the Continent. At Paris he made the acquaintance of Prince Charles Bonaparte, at whose house he was a constant visitor, and thus he received a further stimulus in his favourite pursuit of ornithology.

In 1855 Sclater became a Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and was called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn and went on the Western Circuit for several years. In 1856 he visited America, in company with a friend, and attended the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Saratoga, after which they proceeded to Niagara and the Great Lakes, and on foot to the upper waters of the St. Croix River, thence descending in a birch-bark canoe to the Mississippi. They finally returned to Philadelphia, where Sclater spent some time studying the fine collections at the Academy of Natural Sciences and meeting John Cassin,

Joseph Leidy, John le Conte, and other well-known naturalists, returning to England about the end of the year.

He now took up his residence in London, continuing his studies in natural history and also practising at the Bar. He was a constant attendant at the meetings of the Zoological Society of London, of which he had been previously elected a Fellow, and in 1857 became a Member of the Council. In 1859 Selater, in company with his friend E. C. Taylor, made an expedition to Tunis, visiting the breeding places of the vultures, eagles, and other Raptores and making considerable collections.

About this time Mr. D. W. Mitchell, who had been Secretary to the Zoological Society, was appointed to superintend the new Jardin d'Acclimatation in Paris; thus the post became vacant, and Owen and Yarrell, influential members of the Council, induced Selater to apply for it, and at the Anniversary Meeting in 1859 he was unanimously elected. On his appointment he found that a considerable re-organisation of the Society's affairs was necessary, the 'Proceedings' and 'Transactions' were sadly in arrear, and the gardens themselves were much neglected. He at once set to work to reform these matters, and as a result the prosperity of the Society vastly increased. The number of Fellows was augmented from about 1700 in 1859 to above 3000 when he resigned his post in 1902, and, similarly, the income rose in the same period from £14,000 to £30,000 and both the buildings in the Gardens and the offices in Hanover Square were replaced by much more suitable and commodious structures, the library also received great attention and now became an important feature of the Society. From 1874 to 1876 he became private secretary to his brother (then the Right Honourable Selater-Booth, M.P., and afterwards Lord Basing), when he was President of the Local Government Board in Mr. Disraeli's Administration.

The British Ornithologists' Union was established in 1858 for the study of general ornithology and Selater was invited to become Editor to the first series of its quarterly journal, 'The Ibis.' Volume I appeared in 1859, and the first series was completed in 1865. The next six volumes were edited by Prof. A. Newton, and the third series by Osbert Salvin. From 1877 Selater again became Editor, either alone or in company with a partner, till the end of the ninth series in 1912, and during this time he contributed many valuable papers to the Journal. In 1908, on the occasion of the Jubilee, Selater, together with the three other surviving founders, F. D. Godman (President), W. H. Hudleston, and P. S. Godman, received the gold medal of the Society.

With the British Association for the Advancement of Science he had a long connection, and attended many of the meetings after he became a member in 1847, including the visit to Montreal in 1884 and South Africa in 1905. For several years he was Secretary of Section D, and at the Bristol meeting in 1875 was its President, and delivered an address on "The State of our Knowledge of Zoological Geography," a subject which had hitherto been much neglected. In geography he took a special interest; he became a life member of the Geographical Society, and was a constant

attendant at its meetings. He resigned the Secretaryship of the Zoological Society in 1902 after forty-three years' tenure of that office, and retired to his country house, Odiham Priory, in Hampshire, but was still a frequent visitor at both the Natural History Museum and the Library of the Zoological Society till shortly before his death. He continued a constant attendant at the dinners of the British Ornithologists' Club, at which he usually presided. At the last meeting, held on June 11, 1913, he was presented by the club with an address, signed by nearly all the members, and a piece of plate, in recognition of his services during the past twenty-one years, but he was, unfortunately, too unwell to be present, as he was suffering from a carriage accident, from the effects of which he died on June 27.

Sclater married in 1862 Jane Anne Eliza, youngest daughter of Sir David Hunter-Blair, Bart., of Blairquhan, Ayrshire, and leaves a widow and three sons and one daughter.

With a view to obtain collections of natural history, Sclater assisted in promoting researches in foreign parts. Amongst these may specially be mentioned Sir H. H. Johnston's expedition to Kilimanjaro, Prof. Balfour's visit to Socotra, and many others. Sclater likewise travelled in many parts of Europe and North America, visiting the museums, and making the acquaintance of the principal zoologists.

As before mentioned, he commenced his collection of birds while an undergraduate at Oxford, at that time intending to include those from all parts of the world, but afterwards resolved to confine himself to Central and South America alone, limiting himself to the orders Passeres, Picariæ, and Psittaci. This collection, containing 8824 specimens, representing 3158 species, including many types, was ultimately acquired by the Natural History Museum.

Sclater received the honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Bonn in 1860, and was made a Doctor of Science by the University of Oxford in 1901. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1861, and served twice on the Council, was likewise a Fellow of the Linnean, Geographical, and Geological Societies, and a member of several other scientific societies both at home and abroad.

Amongst the works published by Sclater may specially be mentioned 'A Monograph on the Tanagrine Genus *Calliste*,' 'Zoological Sketches,' by J. Wolf, with notes by P. L. Sclater, 'Exotic Ornithology,' by P. L. Sclater and Osbert Salvin, and the 'Book of Antelopes,' by P. L. Sclater and Oldfield Thomas. In addition to these, he published over 1200 papers in various periodicals, chiefly on birds and mammals, besides many others in conjunction with Osbert Salvin, Forbes, and O. Thomas, etc. His last paper in the 'Ibis' was issued in the January number, 1913, while his first in the 'Zoologist' in 1844.

F. D. G.
