

*Obituary.*

OSBERT SALVIN, F.R.S., whose lamented death on the 1st of June was announced in our last number, was the second son of the late Mr. Anthony Salvin, of Hawksfold, near Haslemere, in Sussex, the well-known architect. Born in 1835, Salvin was educated at Westminster and afterwards at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he graduated as Senior Optime in the Mathematical Tripos of 1857. Shortly after taking his degree, he proceeded, in company with Mr. W. Huddleston Simpson (now Huddleston), to join the Rev. H. B. (now Canon) Tristram, in the study of the natural history of Tunisia and Eastern Algeria, in which five months were pleasantly passed, as those of our readers who are acquainted with the contents of the first volume of 'The Ibis' (1859) will be well aware (see "Five Months' Birds'-nesting in the Eastern Atlas"). It is hardly necessary to say that Salvin was one of the original Members of the British Ornithologists' Union, and in fact the very first paper published in 'The Ibis' was written by him in conjunction with Selater. The subject was the "Ornithology of Central America," Salvin having made the first of several visits to Guatemala in 1857; while a second expedition to the same country, in which his companion was Mr. F. D. Godman, was effected in 1861. The result of the friendship and co-operation thus established is seen in the monumental 'Biologia Centrali-Americana,' which has not yet been brought to a conclusion. In 1871 Salvin commenced the editorship of the 3rd series of 'The Ibis,' and, in co-operation with Selater, concluded the 4th series in 1882. Meanwhile he had been appointed to the Strickland Curatorship in the University of Cambridge and had produced his well-known Catalogue of the Strickland Collection. Salvin was an excellent, indeed we may truly say almost unrivalled "all round" ornithologist; but his strongest subjects were perhaps the Avifauna of the Neotropical region, and his special groups the families Trochilidæ and Procellariidæ, which were assigned to him as the acknowledged authority

in the 'Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum' (vols. xvi. and xxv.). Almost his last piece of work was the completion of the late Lord Lilford's 'Coloured Figures of British Birds.' Salvin was a Fellow of the Royal, the Linnean, the Zoological, and the Entomological Societies, and served on their Councils, while his services for many years to the B.O.U., as Editor and afterwards as Treasurer, are known to all of us. With a character of remarkable straightforwardness and common sense he combined an excellent judgment; while he was personally much beloved, so that his loss has been deeply and sincerely felt, as well on account of his qualities as by reason of difficulties experienced in arranging for the continuation of the many duties which he performed up to the moment of his departure from us.

ALFRED HART EVERETT was born in 1848, on Norfolk Island, where his father held the post of medical officer to the Convict Establishment; but about 1853 his family settled in Jersey, and subsequently near Southampton. From very early years Everett showed a strong taste for natural history, and when, on the occasion of a visit to Norwich, at the age of thirteen, an old gentleman took him on a fossil-hunting expedition it seemed, to use his own words, that a new world had opened to him. His education was chiefly at Norwich Grammar School, under the Rev. (now Canon) Jessopp. Here he distinguished himself, but a severe illness put a stop to his reading for the University. His idea of becoming an explorer now took definite shape, and, having been dissuaded from visiting the Amazon valley, he made the acquaintance of the Rajah of Sarawak (Brooke), who was at the time in England, and he entered the Government service. Of his excellent work as a collector the following list of his contributions will convey some idea:—

A List of the Birds of the Bornean Group of Islands. Journ. Straits Branch R. Asiatic Soc. Singapore, No. 20, 1889, p. 91.

Remarks on the Zoo-geographical Relationships of the Island of Palawan and some adjacent Islands. P. Z. S. 1889, p. 220.

Description of an apparently new Species of the Genus *Siphia* from Borneo. Ibis, 1891, p. 45.

A Nominal List of the Mammals inhabiting the Bornean Group of Islands. P. Z. S. 1893, p. 492.

Notes on Birds Collected in Northern Borneo. *Ibis*, 1894, p. 540.

A List of the Birds of the Island of Balábac, with some Notes on, and Additions to the Avifauna of Pálawan. *Ibis*, 1895, p. 21.

List of a Collection of Birds made in Lombok by Alfred Everett. By E. Hartert; with Notes on Lombok by A. Everett. *Novitates Zool.* iii. p. 591 (1896).

There are also numerous papers by Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe and Mr. Ernst Hartert on the Birds collected by Mr. A. H. Everett, in 'The *Ibis*' and '*Novitates Zoologicae*.'

Finally he returned to England, broken in health, and, to the great regret of all who knew him, he died on the 18th of June last.

Sysselmand HANS C. MÜLLER died at Thorshavn, Færoes, on Christmas day, 1897, at the age of 79. He was born in 1818 at Thorshavn, where his father held the office of Sysselmand before him. At that period the opportunities for education in the Færoes were of the most elementary nature, yet in spite of these drawbacks, Müller, who was possessed of ability and energy, obtained for himself an education far beyond the generality of his fellow-islanders. In 1839 he succeeded his father as Sysselmand, and in 1852 he was elected a member of the local Parliament, an office he held till 1893. He represented the Færoes in the Danish Rigsdag from 1858-90, and on his retirement the King of Denmark created him Knight of the Danebrog. During the whole of his long life Müller devoted himself to the natural history of his native islands, and especially to their ornithology. His '*Færöernes Fuglefauna*,' published in 1862, is still the most trustworthy work on the bird-life of the group. Col. Feilden, who has made several visits to the Færoes, has given most of the results of Müller's observations, in English.