

OBITUARIES.

DR. SPENCER TROTTER, a Member of the Union, died at his home in West Chester, Pa., on April 11, 1931, after a lingering illness. He was born in Philadelphia, on February 8, 1860, the only child of Newbold H. Trotter, an artist of note, and Annie Dawson Trotter.

He was educated at the Friends' Select School and Rugby Academy in Philadelphia and later graduated at the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania, in 1883. He always had a deep interest in natural history, especially ornithology, and spent some time as a student on the Jessup fund at the Academy of Natural Sciences, helping to move the collection of birds from the old Museum at Broad and Sansom Sts., to the present building, and later cataloguing certain groups. He also had the pleasure of showing the birds to the noted British ornithologists, Philip L. Selater and Osbert Salvin who visited this country at that time. Young Trotter was a cousin of Newbold T. Lawrence and used to visit him and collect birds on the beaches of Long Island while he collected assiduously about Philadelphia and secured many rare specimens from the noted taxidermist Chris. Wood whose shop he frequented. When in New York he visited the veteran ornithologist George N. Lawrence, the uncle of Newbold, who showed his collection to the boys and gave them much advice.

After graduating, Dr. Trotter served as resident physician in the Pennsylvania Hospital and practiced medicine for a short time and then in 1888 accepted the professorship of biology in Swarthmore College which he retained until a few years before his death, becoming the dean of the faculty. He did a good deal of lecturing outside the College and was for some years professor of zoology at the Wagner Institute in Philadelphia. His interest in the Academy of Natural Sciences never flagged and as years went on he served as Councillor, Curator, Librarian and Trustee, and was Director of the Ornithological Section.

He became an Associate of the Union in 1888 and was chosen a Member when that class was established in 1901.

He was one of the founders of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club and served as president, 1904-1906.

While possessed of notable literary ability Trotter's time was so fully occupied with his teaching that his writings were unfortunately not very numerous. He published a text-book on geography, several essays in 'Popular Science Monthly' and a number of short papers and notes in the 'Bulletin of the Nuttall Club,' 'The Auk,' 'Bird Lore,' 'Cassinia,' etc. He never engaged in systematic research.

In later years he became deeply interested in geography and anthropology and was elected a fellow of the Royal Geographic Society.

During his earlier years he travelled but little, making a visit to the Pacific Coast and spending several summers in Nova Scotia. Later he visited Europe several times, extending his trips to the Hebrides, Orkneys and Iceland, and made a trip to Japan and China and from Singapore down

to Australia and New Zealand. Wherever he went he was alert for birds and presented the results of his observations in delightful communications before the Delaware Valley Club.

He was suddenly stricken in 1926 and although he partially recovered, and attended the Washington meeting of the Union in 1927, he never was able to take up his work again and for the last year was confined to his room.

Spencer Trotter had a delightful personality and was a brilliant speaker, inspiring his students to deeper interest in their work and ever suggesting to his associates possible lines of research or problems for investigation. To those who were fortunate enough to be with him on field trips or at meetings of the ornithological club his enthusiasm was contagious and by them and his many other friends his loss will be deeply felt.

He married, in 1889, Miss Laura Lee of West Chester, Pa., who, with his son Spencer Lee Trotter, survives him.—W. S.

JOHN GUILLE MILLAIS, a Corresponding Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1911, died on his 66th birthday, March 24, 1931, at Horsham, Sussex, England, as a result of an operation.

He was born in London, March 24, 1865, and was the 4th son of Sir John Everett Millais, P.R.A., from whom he inherited his artistic talents, and Euphemia Chalmers, daughter of George Gray of Perth. His education was received at Marlborough and Trinity College, Cambridge, and after three years' service in the militia in 1886 he joined the First Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders. In 1892 he retired from the army to devote his time to his own pursuits, but during the great war he served with the Intelligence Department in Norway with the rank of Lieut. Commander, R.N.V.R.

Millais was a man of remarkable versatility and wide interests. He was not only a naturalist, traveler, big game hunter, and sportsman, but to these attributes he added those of an artist and sculptor and a deep interest in horticulture. His interest in birds began at an early age when as a boy of 13 he began to collect on the east coast of Scotland, and his collection of about 3000 British birds and big game trophies was housed in his private museum at Horsham, surrounded by the beautiful garden in which his skill as a horticulturist was well exemplified. He traveled in Iceland, Norway, central Europe, in Africa, and in North America from Alaska to Newfoundland.

To American ornithologists he is probably best known through his books on 'Game Birds and Shooting Sketches,' 1892; 'The Wildfowler in Scotland,' 1901; 'The Natural History of the British Surface-Feeding Ducks,' 1902; 'Newfoundland and its Untrodden Ways,' 1907; 'The Natural History of British Game Birds,' 1909; and 'British Diving Ducks,' 1913. In addition to these works are others of a more general nature, including 'A Breath from the Veldt,' 1895, containing an account of his early experiences in Africa; 'British Deer and Their Horns,' 1897; 'Mammals and Birds of

Great Britain and Ireland,' 1904-06; 'Wanderings and Memories,' 1919; 'Far Away up the Nile,' 1924; a monograph on the rhododendrons, a book on the magnolias, life and letters of his father, a biography of his friend Selous, and numerous contributions on big game and shooting. He also contributed articles on Black Game and Ptarmigan to the 'Encyclopaedia of Sport,' 1897-98 and illustrated the 1897 edition of Tegetmeier's Pheasants.

In 1886 he was elected a member of the British Ornithologists' Union and a Fellow of the Zoological Society of London, and in 1894 he married Frances Margaret, a daughter of P. G. Skipwith. He is survived by his wife, a daughter, and a son Raoul, who is also a talented artist.—T. S. P.

HENRY REGINALD CAREY, an Associate of the Union since 1925, died suddenly on May 28, 1931, in Germantown, Philadelphia.

He was born in Epsom, England, September 12, 1890, the son of the late Arthur Astor Carey, a great grandson of John Jacob Astor, and Agnes Whiteside Carey, of England.

At the age of six weeks he was brought home by his parents to their home in Boston, Mass., and when he was eight years old the family moved to Cambridge, where Henry attended Browne and Nichols' preparatory school and later went to Milton Academy. He then entered Harvard University graduating with distinction in 1913, with the degree of A.B. and *cum laude* in Philosophy.

The following year he entered the United States Diplomatic Service and was for two and a half years head of the Passport Bureau in Paris. Other assignments in the service were at Panama, Mexico City and Bucharest.

On January 22, 1921, Carey married Margaret Bacon of Germantown, Philadelphia, where he later established his home. He spent a year in the business college of Columbia University and later entered the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania, being admitted to the bar in the fall of 1925. He decided not to practice law, however, but to devote himself to writing and in the ensuing years published a number of papers dealing mainly with natural history, the conservation of wild life, foreign affairs, and eugenics; his last work in the latter field being a translation of a French book on the falling birth rate of Rome during the time of Caesar Augustus.

Upon moving to Philadelphia, Carey joined the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club and became an Active Member contributing much to the success of the meetings and the field trips. He was also elected to membership in the Franklin Inn Club a noted writers' organization of Philadelphia. From early boyhood he was deeply interested in photography, especially of wild life with camera-trap and flash-light. He succeeded in securing very fine photographs of snowshoe rabbits in the Pocono Mountains, in winter, the drumming of the Ruffed Grouse (published in 'The Auk'), a fox in his runway, deer drinking at a woodland pool, etc. All of his

photographic plates and explanatory memoranda on his methods he bequeathed to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia for the encouragement of the study of wild life through photography.

Unlike his great-great-grandfather, John Jacob Astor, who was such a prominent figure in the fur trade of his day, Henry Carey spent his energies in the opposite direction and was a very strong advocate of the conservation of the fur-bearers as well as wild life in general. He was a member of the Emergency Conservation Committee and took an active part in the efforts to save the big game of Africa from extermination by hunters.

"Rex" Carey as he was known to his associates possessed a delightful personality and was popular with all with whom he came in contact, and his passing in the fullness of young manhood is a sad blow to his many friends. He is survived by his widow, his mother and four small children.
—ARTHUR C. EMLÉN.

GEORGE IRVING CARPENTER, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1907, died at his home in Brooklyn, N. Y., in his 53rd year, on January 29, 1930. He was born in Stanfordville, Dutchess County, N. Y., April 3, 1877, the son of Charles H. and Tamar E. Carpenter, and from his early boyhood was interested in birds. His activities were chiefly concerned with local birds and he made a collection of the nests and eggs of the birds of Dutchess County. Unfortunately he does not seem to have published to any extent on birds and consequently his knowledge of the local avifauna was not made available to others.

By profession Mr. Carpenter was an expert accountant, and a member of the American Bankers' Association. He was also a member of the National Association of Audubon Societies, and the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.—T. S. P.

FRANK WATKINS COMMONS, for many years an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, died at Minneapolis, Minnesota, on December 28, 1930. Born of Quaker stock at Wyoming, Delaware, on August 1, 1859, he was educated in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he lived the greater part of his early life. Coming to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1882 he entered the grain business in association with his father and brother. After the death of the father the two brothers continued the business with offices in the Chamber of Commerce. In 1892 he married Miss Marie Andrews who survives him. Mrs. Commons had been interested in the study of birds from her girlhood and Mr. Commons becoming interested also after their marriage, a close companionship in nature study, with the study of birds as the major object, continued uninterruptedly thereafter. With the establishment of a beautiful home in the midst of a diversified thirty-three acre tract on the north shore of Lake Minnetonka, some fifteen miles west of Minneapolis, this became the focal point of many years of bird-study. Here, in 1923, the banding of birds was begun on an extensive scale and almost at once the "Tanager Hill Banding Station"

became one of the largest and most important stations in North America. The work was carried on in the most orderly and systematic manner, Mr. Commons bringing to bear the recording methods of an exacting man of business. Besides the regular reports and summaries sent to the Biological Survey at Washington, elaborate statistics and cross references were kept on special sheets prepared for personal use. This work is complete up to the time of Mr. Commons' death. In all of it Mrs. Commons took an equal and active part, her greater knowledge of birds being an important aid in determining doubtful species.

Mr. Frederick C. Lincoln, in charge of the bird banding work of the Biological Survey at Washington, wrote on learning of Mr. Commons' death: "I feel that this is not only a great personal loss but also the most serious one that we have sustained in the bird banding work, for as you know the Commons' station was one of the largest in the country."

The Commons' estate was an ideal place for bird study and for many years it was the Mecca for University of Minnesota and other bird classes. These groups, accompanied by their leaders, were always made welcome and Mr. and Mrs. Commons were ever the cordial and helpful host and hostess. In later years it provided an object lesson in bird banding for all who were interested and visitors never failed of a ready and responsive reception.

Mr. Commons was active in civic and business affairs, was at one time vice-president of the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, and for many years served on its Board of Directors. In all his varied business connections he was most highly respected and admired by his associates. He was known as a man of the most scrupulously punctilious methods and of fair and sound judgment in deciding questions of policy. The firm and later company of which he was, after the death of his father, the senior member, always ranked among the highest in business circles.

Socially he had many sincere and devoted friends, to whom he was always loyal, companionable, and ever ready to grant assistance if needed. As a man he was the courteous gentleman always, with a refined and attractive personality and was possessed of a genial and affable nature that endeared him to all who had the good fortune to know him intimately.—T. S. R.

EDWARD ADDISON EVERETT, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, died at his residence in Waseca, Minnesota, on November 27, 1928. He was born at Arene, Wisconsin, February 20, 1867. His parents moved to Waseca when he was less than a year old and he continued a resident of that place until his death. At an early age he became interested in birds, made a collection of mounted specimens, kept records, and for a time sent migration data to the Biological Survey at Washington, of which use has been made in recent years in compiling a history of Minnesota ornithology.

At the age of fifteen he entered his father's flour mill, was a partner and in full charge before he was twenty, and later became president of the firm

of Everett, Aughenbaugh and Company, merchant millers, which position he held until his retirement in 1926. His interest in birds never flagged but he was too engrossed in business to give them more than a passing thought. It was his dream that on retiring he would devote his entire time to ornithology and Boy Scout work. But when the time came he found himself physically incapacitated and was never able fully to realize his plans. He fitted up the third story of his commodious home as a meeting-place for both Boy and Girl Scouts, began making a museum for their use, established a bird banding station on the beautiful lakeside grounds around his home, made several visits to the University Museum in the interests of his revived bird-work, was a frequent correspondent on bird matters, and in every way struggled valiantly to realize his long cherished ideal. Had he lived a few years longer he would undoubtedly have accomplished much, as he was a man of intense energy and possessed the means and ability to carry through whatever projects he or others might inaugurate. His death was a great loss and a keen disappointment to the writer and his other bird-loving friends. He had become much interested in the work of the University Museum and his genial, enthusiastic, and whole-souled nature made him a most desirable friend and associate. The young people of Waseca, with whom he came in contact during his last years, adored and respected him.

After Mr. Everett's death it was found that he had left a will in which he bequeathed in trust to the University of Minnesota for the "Department of Birds" (meaning unquestionably the Museum of Natural History) a sum amounting to \$740,000. But by the terms of the will the income will not come to the University until twenty years after the last of his children's children have died, which in all probability will not be for a hundred years or so! About the time the will must have been made the writer and Mr. Kilgore dined with Mr. Everett at his home in Waseca and a passing remark made by him at that time to the effect that he contemplated "helping you boys" now seems to have foreshadowed what was in his mind. But as things have turned out, it will not be the present staff but those in charge of the "department of birds" in the far future who will profit by the income from a million dollars or more. The University Board of Regents formally accepted the bequest on November 23, 1929.—T. S. R.

CORRECTION. In the list of Deceased Members published in the 'The Auk' for April 1930 the names of Chester Barlow who died in 1902, and John Nathaniel Clark who died in 1903 were inadvertently included in the list of Deceased Associates instead of in the list of Deceased Members. Both were elected full members in 1901 and the fact was mentioned in their obituary notices. The long standing error was due to the fact that for several years after the establishment of the class of members both deceased Members and Associates were included in the same list. It was not until 1906 that separate lists of deceased Members and Associates were published and at that time the transfer of these two names to the new list was overlooked.