

OBITUARIES.

DR. ELON HOWARD EATON, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union 1895-1906 and elected a Member in 1907, died at his home in Geneva, N. Y., March 27, 1934, from a heart attack following a prolonged illness due to arterio-sclerosis. He was born in Springville, N. Y., October 8, 1866, the son of Luzern and Sophia (Newton) Eaton. He received his early education at Griffiths' Institute at Springville and was graduated with an A. B. degree from the University of Rochester (N. Y.) in 1890. He received the M.A. degree from Rochester in 1893, M.Sc. in 1911 and Sc.D. in 1927. He also did graduate work at Columbia University in 1899-1900.

On September 4, 1909 he was married to Gertrude Yeames of Arlington, Massachusetts, and they had two children, Elizebeth and Elon Howard, Jr. He was married a second time, September 1, 1915, to Ester Woodman of Geneva, N. Y. and to them were born two children, Mary and Steven Woodman.

He was vice-principal and science teacher at the Canandaigua, N. Y., High School 1889-1895, then went to the Bradstreet School, Rochester, N. Y., as master in science 1896-1907. In 1908 he went to Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, N. Y., as head of the Biology Department and Curator of the Hobart College Museum where he remained until his death.

His interest in ornithology came early in life and his family, thinking him not strong enough to stand steady work in school, bought him a gun and allowed him to roam the fields while they enabled him to take a course in taxidermy at Buffalo, N. Y.

In 1901 he published his 'Birds of Western N. Y.' (Proceedings of the Rochester Academy of Science). He was New York State Ornithologist 1908-1914 and in 1910 was published the first volume of his outstanding work, 'Birds of New York,' Memoir No. 12 of the New York State Museum. The second volume followed in 1914 and in a review in 'The Auk' (Vol. XXXI) the reviewer designated it as "the most comprehensive state ornithology that has yet appeared."

He was appointed to membership on the advisory council of the State Conservation Department and was selected to head a biological survey of the famous Finger Lakes district of western New York which was recognized as one of the most complete investigations of its kind. The results were published in his 'Biological Survey of the Finger Lakes.'

He made warm friendships with the ornithologists and bird lovers of western New York and was loved and revered by his pupils. When he took them afield his knowledge of all nature made him a valuable teacher. Each year in mid-May he led a party of Hobart students in a bird census of Potter Swamp and vicinity. In this he was joined by ornithologists from Geneva, Canandaigua, Rochester, Buffalo, Penn Yan, Branchport and other surrounding towns.

He was a fellow of the American Society for the Advancement of Science, member of the American Society of Mammalogists, American Eugenics Society, American Fern Society, American Fisheries Society, American Forestry Association and Ecological Society of America.—VERDI BURTON.