

and enduring consequence of Fibiger's discoveries. Their permanent value will inscribe his name beside that of Virchow, on whose theory of chronic irritation it has placed the crown of experimental verification.

The recent award to him of the Nobel Prize in Medicine was welcomed by Fibiger's friends and admirers throughout the world. In 1926 he was made Rector of his University, a post which he filled with dignity and distinction. His unflinching personal courtesy and energy were proof even against the tedium of international conventions, and in his addresses, as in his published work, he combined brilliance with accuracy, sanity and restraint with enthusiasm.

J. A. MURRAY.

MR. J. E. HARTING.

MR. JAMES EDMUND HARTING, who died on Jan. 16, was the son of a Roman Catholic solicitor and was born in 1844 in Chelsea. He was educated at Downside College and, after taking his B.A. at the University of London, he joined his father's firm and practised for some years as a solicitor. Always attracted to natural history, he continued his observations of Nature, more especially of bird-life, in and around London, and one of his earliest papers, "A list of Waders that have appeared at Kingsbury Reservoir in 1863," appeared in the *Zoologist* for that year. From this time onwards, Nature articles from his pen appeared regularly in the *Field*, the *Sussex Zoologist*, the *Middlesex Zoologist*, and in many other journals, but the great majority were written for the *Zoologist*, and in 1877 he became the editor of this journal, a position he retained until 1896. From 1871 he was naturalist editor of the *Field*, and later shooting editor also. On the opening of the Natural History Museum at South Kensington he was appointed to form the zoological library, and the zeal and energy with which he worked is attested by the magnificent collection of books now in the Museum available for reference.

Among the more important of the many books written by Harting were "The Birds of Middlesex" (1866); "The Ornithology of Shakespeare" (1871); "A Handbook of British Birds" (1872), of which he brought out a new and revised edition in 1901; in 1875 he edited an edition of White's "Natural History of Selborne"; "British Extinct Animals" (1880); "The Birds of Hampstead" (1889); and "Bibliotheca Accipitraria" (1891), this last being perhaps the most valuable of all his works. In addition, however, to the above-mentioned works of a more or less scientific character, he wrote many books indirectly connected with ornithology, such as "Ostriches and Ostrich Farming" (1879) and "British Game Birds and Game Laws" (1912).

As a writer, Harting had the knack of making his subjects interesting even when they appealed only to a small circle of readers, whilst his popular and semi-popular books and articles showed a wealth of knowledge and accurate observation of Nature, recorded with a charm that disarmed even

those who disagreed with his deductions. From a scientific point of view, Harting was, unfortunately, so conservative that modern methods annoyed and irritated him. In consequence, he often refused to accept facts which, in his heart of hearts, he knew to be true, or arguments which he knew to be irrefutable. Nevertheless, his recent death leaves the scientific world the poorer, whilst the Nature-lover loses a writer who, whatever he wrote, was always well worth reading.

MR. GEORGE MUIRHEAD, successively factor on large estates in Berwickshire and on the Earl of Aberdeen's properties in Aberdeenshire, and for the last quarter of a century Commissioner on the Scottish estates of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, had exceptional opportunities for studying the natural history of Scotland in very diverse regions. He made the most of these, and for long had been well known throughout the country on account of the particular interest he showed in bird life, in the artificial rearing of salmon and trout, and in floriculture. More than twenty years ago Mr. Muirhead conducted a series of experiments on the rearing of salmon fry in salt-water ponds near the estuary of the Spey, and succeeded in rearing fry, received from the hatcheries at Gordon Castle, through the smolt to the grilse stage. His most important work was his "Birds of Berwickshire," the two volumes of which, published in 1889 and 1895, comprise much more than the ordinary local fauna, since they include readable accounts of the past history and of the legendary lore of the species found in the county. A few years ago the University of Aberdeen recognised the merit of his work by granting him the degree of LL.D. He died on Jan. 29 at the ripe age of eighty-two years, and is survived by his widow, the eldest daughter of the late Lord Sempill.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Prof. P. Carmody, Director of Agriculture and Government Analyst, Trinidad, on Feb. 10, aged seventy-one years.

Dr. R. S. Holway, emeritus professor of physical geography at the University of California, on Dec. 2, aged seventy years.

Dr. W. L. Johannsen, professor of plant physiology in the University of Copenhagen and a foreign member of the Swedish and of the Austrian Academies of Sciences, on Nov. 11.

Mr. Richard Kearton, author of several popular books on natural history, and associated with his brother, Mr. Cherry Kearton, in the cinematography of wild animals, on Feb. 8, aged sixty-six years.

Colonel J. P. Koch, Chief of the Danish Military Air Service, who had taken part in many exploring expeditions in Greenland, on Jan. 13.

Prof. Otto Krug, Director of the Agricultural Experimental Station and Public Institute for the Examination of Foodstuffs at Speyer, on Dec. 25, aged sixty-four years.

Prof. Ludwig Milch, Director of the Institute of Mineralogy and Petrology at the University of Breslau, on Jan. 5, aged sixty years.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Oxford and Asquith, F.R.S., on Feb. 15, aged seventy-five years.