

## OBITUARIES.

## FRANCIS HENRY LEE.

Francis Henry Lee was born in Salem, Mass., December 23, 1836, and died in the house in which he was born, October 8, 1913. His father was John Clarke Lee, one of the founders of the well-known firm of Lee, Higginson & Co. of Boston. In the Civil War he served as a private in Company F of the 23d Massachusetts Regiment, being unwilling to accept a commission, but he was so impressed by the horrors of war that he seldom discussed the experience of those years. He was a trustee of many benevolent and literary institutions of local interest, including what is said to have been the first Boys' Club of America. Constant, devoted service and liberal contributions were given by him without stint to public and private charity. In 1871 he married Sophia E. Willson of Salem who survives him. He was elected a member of this Society in 1904. S. U.

## FREDERICK ALBION OBER.

Frederick Albion Ober died in Hackensack, N. J., June 2, 1913. He was born in Beverly, Mass., February 13, 1849, was educated in the public schools and while young began ornithological studies which he pursued until he became one of the leading authorities in the country upon bird life. From 1872 to 1874 he explored Florida, finding many species of birds not before known. From 1876 to 1878 and again in 1880 he made an ornithological exploration of the Lesser Antilles, found twenty-two new species of birds, and added many types to the collections of the Smithsonian Institution in the Proceedings of which he made a full report of his work. He made journeys to Mexico, Spain, Africa, and South

America, finding new birds, collecting information, concerning the people and publishing about forty books as the results of his investigation. He was a member of many learned societies including this Society to which he was elected in 1893. In April, 1894, he contributed to its Proceedings a paper on "The Aborigines of the West Indies."  
S. U.

#### WILLIAM ADDISON SMITH

William Addison Smith, the oldest member of this Society and the fourth in seniority of membership, died in Worcester, Mass., Sept. 25, 1913. He was born in Leicester, Mass., March 2, 1824, the son of John A. and Sarah Sargent Smith. He was graduated from Harvard in 1843, was admitted to the bar in 1846 and in 1850 was appointed Assistant Clerk of Courts. On the failure of his health in 1865 he resigned and went abroad and on his return engaged in business. In 1870 he was elected clerk and treasurer of the Worcester County Mechanics Association, holding these offices thirty-seven years till age and infirmity compelled him to retire. He was elected a member of this Society in 1867, was a regular attendant at its meetings and served as Auditor from 1884 to 1901. In 1868 he made a catalogue of the Indian relics owned by the Society. He was much interested in Masonry and for several years was the only 33d degree Mason in Worcester. He married, April 18, 1849, Eliza A. Howe, of Worcester, and is survived by two sons, Charles E. Smith and William E. Smith.

Throughout his lifetime Mr. Smith was an assiduous collector of Worcester County literature, and possessed an extensive library valuable chiefly for the large amount of ephemeral local material which he preserved. The great mass of books and pamphlets, which has been generously presented to the Society by his heirs, has aided immeasurably in filling in gaps in our Worcester County files, and in supplying the library with material which except for him would undoubtedly never have been preserved.  
S. U.

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