Scottish Geographical Magazine

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rsgj19>

Obituary: 1894

J. W. M'Crindle M.A., M.R.A.S.

Published online: 27 Feb 2008.

To cite this article: J. W. M'Crindle M.A., M.R.A.S. (1895) Obituary: 1894, Scottish Geographical Magazine, 11:1, 19-27, DOI: [10.1080/00369229508732748](https://doi.org/10.1080/00369229508732748)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00369229508732748>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. Terms & Conditions of access

and use can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/page/terms-and-conditions>

effects of high altitudes and variations of temperature on the human organism are very valuable.

There can be no doubt but that in climbing Pioneer peak (23,000 feet), an outlier of Golden Throne, Mr. Conway and his companions accomplished all that men could do, every step of the last part of the ascent having to be cut with the axe, and all precautions being taken to avoid disaster. Zurbriggen himself declared that not another step could he cut; and all of the party, weakened as they were by the continued strain of the last three weeks, recognised that the utmost limit had been reached, and that henceforward nothing remained for them but "downwards and homewards."

We are compelled to pass over much that is interesting in this book: the description of Kashmir, with its gardens, ruined temples, and lovely scenery contrasting with the dirt and squalor of its capital; the march to Gilgit, and thence up the Hunza valley to Nagyr and Baltit; and, lastly, the visit to Leh and the Lamasery of Himis. We lay down this book with the conviction that its author has laid the British public under a deep debt of gratitude; and we hope that other explorers will be found to carry on such work in the same spirit and with the qualifications possessed by Mr. Conway.

E. D. MORGAN.

OBITUARY: 1894.

By J. W. M'CRRINDLE, M.A., M.R.A.S.

Lieutenant-Colonel ALFRED BURDON ELLIS, C.B.—This distinguished officer, who was the author of several valuable works on African geography and ethnology, died of fever in the island of Teneriffe, on the 5th of March last, at the early age of 42. His name was at the time prominently before the public. He had conducted with eminent success the short but arduous campaign against the Sofas, and the official despatches in which he described its incidents had all appeared in the columns of the *Times* just before he was cut off. He was the only surviving son of Lieutenant-General Sir S. Burdon Ellis, K.C.B. Born in 1852, he entered the army at the age of 20, and after a short term of service in the West Indies was transferred to Africa, where during the remainder of his career he rendered important services both as a soldier and as an administrator. He took part in the Ashanti War in 1873-4, also in the operations against the Awama, and in the Zulu War. In 1892 he commanded the expeditions to Tambi and to Toniataba, receiving for the latter the C.B. and the medal with clasps. He held various civil as well as military commands along the West Coast, chiefly on the Gold Coast and in Sierra Leone.

Colonel Ellis, amidst the discharge of his official duties, found time to study the languages and ethnic characteristics of the Guinea tribes; and the works in which he has embodied the results of his researches are

of high value and authority. His *History of the Gold Coast*, which appeared in 1893, is a thoroughgoing history of the Gold Coast from the earliest times to the present day, and contains a full account of the Ashanti War of 1873-4.

Dr. HENDRIK JOHANNES RINK.—Dr. Rink, who for the last forty years of his life was the supreme authority on all manner of questions relating to Greenland, died at Christiania on the 15th of December 1893. He was born in Copenhagen in 1819, and was the son of a Kiel merchant. After having studied with distinction at Kiel University, he went to that of Copenhagen, where he graduated as a Doctor of Philosophy. He accompanied as a naturalist the Danish expedition for sailing round the world, which had for one of its objects to make a fresh attempt to colonise the Nicobar islands. This enterprise failed, but Dr. Rink was able to complete a survey of these islands. His health, however, had broken down, and he returned to Denmark, where in 1847 he published an account of his researches in two separate works. In the following year he went to Greenland, and for the next seven years was engaged in exploring the whole of its outer coasts and fiords, his only companions being the Eskimo, with whose language and traditions he took the opportunity of making himself thoroughly familiar. The results of his investigations he made known in occasional short papers, and chiefly in his memoir entitled *De Danske Handeldistricter in Nordgrønland*, which was published by the Academy of Sciences. From 1855 to 1868 he held the appointment of Royal Inspector of South Greenland, a post in which he did much to encourage education and promote the general well-being of the natives. On the death of Herr Olrik, the Inspector of North Greenland, in 1871, Dr. Rink's services were rewarded by his appointment as Director of the Royal Greenland Board of Trade, the department which controls the commerce and other affairs of the Arctic possessions of Denmark. His headquarters were at Copenhagen during his tenure of this office, which lasted till 1881, when the state of his health compelled him to seek retirement. On resigning he retired to Christiania, where his only daughter resided. He published other works than those already mentioned, among which may be instanced his *Eskimoiske Eventyr og Sagn*, which appeared in 1866, and nine years afterwards re-appeared in an English version with the title *Tales and Traditions of the Eskimo; Danish Greenland*; and a treatise called *The Eskimo Tribes*, in which he expounded his views of the origin and migration of the Arctic peoples. While he resided in Christiania his house was a great resort of all who were interested in the Arctic regions, and his influence had no small share in re-kindling that zeal for Arctic exploration which has of late led to the despatch of so many expeditions in quest of the North Pole.

PETER LEOPOLD VON SCHRENCK, celebrated as the explorer of the lands of the Amur, died on the 20th of January last in St. Petersburg. He was born in 1826 in the Russian government of Kharkof, and on the completion of his school course entered the University of Moscow,

where he devoted himself to the study of natural science, and was rewarded with the degree of Master of Philosophy. In 1850 he went to Berlin, and there, under the influence of the famous Karl Ritter, zealously prosecuted the study of geography. In 1852 he obtained the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Königsberg, and published his work entitled *Ideen zu einer Hydrographie der Landseen mit besonderer Rücksicht auf die Seen der Alpen*. He held for a short time the post of Professor of Geography in the University of Dorpat, and then proceeded to St. Petersburg, where he was admitted to the privileges of an adjunct of the Imperial Academy of the Sciences. By this body he was sent out to explore scientifically the regions through which the Amur passes, and was allowed for the purpose the services of two assistants, one for drawing and the other for preparing specimens. He sailed for the scene of action in August 1853. The frigate which carried him having been detained for several weeks at Rio Janeiro, he turned the time to account by making an excursion into the Brazilian primeval forest. A second detention occurred at Callao, the port of Lima, whence he made an excursion to the graves in which the Incas entombed their dead. Some of these he excavated, and by rifling their contents made a fine collection of antiquities. From Callao he sailed direct to Kamtschatka, and, arriving at Petropaulofsk, there left the frigate. He then sailed through the Sea of Okhotsk to the mouth of the Amur. He published afterwards a work in which he recorded his observations on the currents of that sea, which he had studied during the passage. He spent two years and a half (1854-1856) in exploring the Amur regions, and then returned to St. Petersburg through Siberia and Russia. The working up of his materials was a laborious task, and occupied him for many years. Unfortunately the great work in which he was giving to the world the result of his researches had not been completed when he died. The parts which have been published are devoted chiefly to zoology and a description of the tribes in the neighbourhood of the Amur. The title of the work is *Reisen und Forschungen im Amurlande*. Its merits are of the highest order. The author is praised for the lucidity of his style, the depth of his thoughts, and the force of the reasoning by which he establishes his conclusions. In St. Petersburg he rendered several important services towards the furtherance of science, among others the creation of the Anthropological-Ethnographical Museum of the Academy of the Sciences. The Academy rewarded him with admission to its membership, and the Government by appointing him, in 1873, a Councillor of State, with the title of Excellency, and afterwards by promoting him, in 1888, to be a Privy Councillor.

Admiral Sir EDWARD INGLEFIELD, K.C.B.—Sir E. Inglefield, who rendered important services to geography by several voyages which he made to the Arctic regions, died in London on the 5th of September last. He was born at Cheltenham in 1820, and was the son of an admiral. He was educated at the Royal Naval College, Portsmouth, and, having entered the navy, saw service in the Levant, in the Malay Archipelago, and off the coast of South America. In 1852 he sailed in a yacht to the

Arctic seas in quest of Sir John Franklin. In this voyage he discovered that within Smith's Sound there existed open water, and on returning to this country was awarded the gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society. In 1853 he was sent out in command of three vessels for the relief of the Belcher expedition in Wellington Channel, and in the following year was again sent out for the same purpose. He succeeded in rescuing the crews of several of the deserted vessels which belonged to the Belcher expedition, and brought them back with him to England. He afterwards took part in the operations connected with the siege of Sebastopol. In 1869 he was promoted to be a flag-officer, in 1877 was knighted, and in 1887 was made a K.C.B. He wrote papers on naval and scientific subjects, and also a book called *A Summer Search for Sir John Franklin*.

Captain VERNEY LOVETT CAMERON.—The sad news that Captain Cameron, who had escaped so many perils in his well-known adventurous journey through Africa, had been killed by falling from his horse on his way home from the hunting-field, was received with painful regret in all parts of the country. This event occurred at Leighton Buzzard on Easter Monday, the 26th of March last. This great traveller was the son of the late Rev. J. H. L. Cameron, vicar of Shoreham, and was born near Weymouth in 1844. Having entered the Royal Navy in 1857, he served in the Mediterranean, the West Indies, and the Red Sea, and distinguished himself in the Abyssinian campaign of 1868. In 1873 he left England in charge of the second expedition which the Royal Geographical Society despatched to Africa to find and succour Livingstone. On March 18 the expedition left Zanzibar, and on August 5 arrived at Unyanyemba. During a halt which was made at this station, the servants of Dr. Livingstone brought to it the dead body of their master. Two members of the expedition, Lieutenant Murphy and Dr. Dillon, were sent with the body to the coast, while Cameron himself resolved to proceed westward into the interior. On February 21, 1874, he reached Ujiji on Lake Tanganyika, where he found some of Livingstone's papers and one of his maps. He fixed with precision the position of Ujiji, explored the southern half of the lake, and corrected the accepted estimate of its altitude. He discovered the river Lukuga, which issues from the lake, and which he held to be an affluent of the Lualaba, a river which, as shown by Stanley, is the upper course of the Congo. On May 20 he left Ujiji, proceeding westward to reach the Atlantic Ocean, and in August arrived at Nyangwe, a station on the Lualaba. He was anxious to advance by this river, but, finding it impossible to procure boats for the purpose, he turned south-westward, and, having reached Kilemba, the chief town of Urua, in October 1874, remained there till about the end of February of the year following. He employed this interval in making excursions, which enabled him to fill in not a few blanks in the map of Africa. Having resumed his march, he passed through Bihé, and on the 7th of November reached Katombela, on the Atlantic, a place situated to the north of Benguela. He was the first European who crossed Tropical Africa from east to west. On his return home he received

various honours—the gold medals both of the London and of the Paris Geographical Societies, the order of C.B., the degree of D.C.L. from Oxford, and the rank of Commander from the Admiralty. In 1877 he published a narrative of his travels, under the title of *Across Africa*.

In the following year he started on a tour through Asiatic Turkey and Persia, and after his return published his work, entitled *Our Future Highway*, in which he advocated the construction of a railway from the Mediterranean to Karachi at the mouth of the Indus. In 1882 he joined Sir Richard Burton in an expedition into the interior of Guinea to search for gold. Gold was found, but not in sufficient quantity to pay expenses. The enterprise, however, bore fruit in the shape of some interesting contributions to Natural History, besides the establishment of the fact that a stone age had at one time existed on the Gold Coast.

Captain Cameron was the author of several works besides those already mentioned, as, for instance, *The Cruise of the Black Prince Privateer*, *The Adventures of Herbert Massey in Eastern Africa*, and a translation of a work on *Steam Tactics*. In his later years he was interested in several companies which had been formed for developing the resources and promoting the work of civilisation in the central parts of Africa.

RICHARD BUCHTA.—A short tribute is due in these pages to the memory of this distinguished Austrian painter, on account of his explorations in the Eastern Soudan, and of the incomparable skill with which, whether by means of camera, or pencil, or brush, he represented the scenery of the country and the persons of its inhabitants. He was born in 1845, at Radlof, a town in Galicia. He went to the Soudan in the days while it was still a dependency of Egypt, and he there associated with General Gordon, Schweinfurth, and Emin Pasha. Having an intimate knowledge of Egypt and its political relations, Buchta published in 1884 a work entitled *Der Sudán und der Mahdi*, and this was followed by another in 1888 entitled *Der Sudán unter ägyptischer Herrschaft*. Of the artistic works which he published, the greatest is held to be his costly *Album of the Human Types of the Upper Nile*. He was a modest, good-hearted man, and allowed others to deck themselves in his plumage, being well aware that the imposture would be easily detected. In Vienna he had to labour hard to keep himself from want, and had little, if any, intercourse with the geographical world. This caused him some bitterness. On the occasion, however, of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Imperial Royal Geographical Society, the Emperor conferred upon him the good service cross with the crown. He died in Vienna on the 27th of July last from an apoplectic stroke.

The Right Honourable Sir HENRY AUSTEN LAYARD, G.C.B.—Sir Henry Layard, who made his name of world-wide celebrity by his discovery and exploration of the ruins of ancient Nineveh, died in London on the 5th of July last. He was born in Paris in 1817. His father was an Englishman—the son of Dr. Layard, Dean of Bristol—and his mother was a Spaniard. He was educated in Italy, where he acquired a taste for art. In 1833 he went to London to qualify himself for the bar, but,

finding the study of law too sedentary an occupation, he abandoned it for travelling. Accordingly, in July 1839 he left London, and after travelling in Central Europe reached Constantinople by way of Albania and Rumelia. Thence he passed over into Asia, where he wandered about for several years, first in Palestine and Syria, and afterwards in Ispahan, Central Persia, Susiana, and Turkish Arabia. It was a rough life he led, and full of the most romantic and perilous adventures. These he has described in a work which appeared long afterwards (1887), under the title *Early Adventures in Persia, Susiana, and Babylonia*. The work is charmingly written, and has taken a very high place in the literature of travel. In 1842 Layard returned to Constantinople bearing despatches from the British consul at Baghdad to Sir Stratford Canning, then the British Ambassador at the Porte. This great diplomatist, who to his other gifts added a keen insight into character, very soon discerned that his visitor was a man of no ordinary capacity, and well qualified, by his intimate knowledge of the Oriental races and their languages, both to advise him in framing his policy and to assist him in carrying it out. He accordingly availed himself of his services, which he wished to recognise by the offer of an *attaché*-ship on his staff. As the Foreign Office did not, however, sanction this proposal, he procured for Layard, in 1845, the permission of the Turkish Government to carry out the exploration of ancient Nineveh in accordance with plans which had been previously sketched by Layard himself. Sir Stratford also generously supplied him, mainly from his own private resources, with the necessary funds. In the following year Layard was authorised to export the sculptures which he had disintombed; and these, after a long delay, and in a more or less damaged condition, reached London, and were deposited in the British Museum. He returned to Europe in 1847, and found that his wonderful discoveries had raised him to the height of fame throughout the scientific world. Oxford at once recognised his services by conferring upon him the honorary degree of D.C.L.; and in 1849 he was appointed by the Foreign Office paid *attaché* at Constantinople to enable him to prosecute still further his researches in the valley of the Tigris. Parliament made him a grant of £3000 for the purposes of this second expedition, the labours of which he brought to a conclusion in February 1852. In the following works he has described the nature and results of his exploring operations:—*Nineveh and its Remains*; *Nineveh and Babylon*; and *Discoveries in the Ruins of Nineveh and Babylon, with Travels in Armenia, Kurdistan, and the Desert*.

After his return to England from the East, Layard devoted the rest of his life chiefly to politics and diplomacy. He sat in Parliament as member for Aylesbury from 1852 to 1857, and afterwards as member for Southwark from 1860 to 1868, in which latter year he was re-elected, sworn as a Privy Councillor, and made First Commissioner of Works and Buildings. In 1869 he went to Madrid as Envoy-extraordinary, and in 1877 to Constantinople as Ambassador-extraordinary to the Sultan. In the following year he received the Grand Cross of the Bath. In 1880 he retired into private life, and selected Venice as his place of residence, and there employed his leisure in the composition of works relating to art and literature.

Dr. HEINRICH BRUGSCH PASHA.—This celebrated explorer in the domain of Egyptian antiquity died in Berlin on the 9th of September last, after a painful and lingering illness. He was born in that city in 1827, and was the son of a commander of the bodyguard. Early in life, and under the influence of Alexander v. Humboldt, he turned his attention to Egyptian studies, and on their completion visited the museums of Paris, London, Leyden, and Turin. In 1853 he proceeded to Egypt, where the excavation of the Apis sepulchres, conducted by the famous French archæologist Mariette, presented him with excellent opportunities for the study of history and hieroglyphics. On returning next year to Berlin, he was appointed Conservator of the Egyptian Museum. From 1857 to 1858 we find him again in Egypt, and in 1860 in Persia, first as a member, and afterwards as head, of the Prussian embassy to the court of the Shah. His next appointment was that of consul in Cairo—a post which he held from 1864 to 1868, when he returned to Germany and became Professor of Egyptology in the University of Göttingen. Not long afterwards, however, he returned to Egypt, having been invited by the viceroy, Ismail Pasha, to undertake the conduct of the School of Egyptology which had been established in Cairo. On the downfall of Ismail, he returned once more to his native country, rewarded with the title of Pasha, conferred upon him by Ismail's successor. In 1884, along with Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia, he undertook a journey which in its scope comprised Egypt, Syria, Greece, and Italy. In the two following years he was again in Persia, being on the staff of the embassy sent by Prussia to the Persian court. On returning to Berlin, he gave prelections in the University; but in 1891, at the instance of the Government, he once more proceeded to Egypt, wherefrom he brought back with him no fewer than 3000 papyrus rolls. His life's work was now finished, for during his closing years he was frequently prostrated by painful attacks of the disease to which he finally succumbed. For the foregoing particulars we are indebted mainly to a memoir of the great Egyptologist written by Herr W. Wolkenhauer, and published in the *Globus* and *Deutsche Rundschau*. He sums up the achievements of his departed friend in the following terms: "Through his numerous works he has enriched the knowledge of the hieroglyphic monuments, he has firmly established the geography of ancient Egypt, and generally has extended, almost more than any other, the knowledge of the chronology, astronomy, and history of ancient Egypt." His principal works which relate to geography are: *Reiseberichte aus Ägypten*; *Reise der Königl. Preuss. Gesandtschaft nach Persien*; *Prinz Friedrich Karl im Morgenlande*; *Im Lande der Sonne*; *Geographische Inschriften altägyptischer Denkmäler*; *Dictionnaire géographique de l'ancienne Egypte*. His last great work, which he published at first in the *Vossische Zeitung*, was *Mein Leben und mein Wandern*. It was a work of high interest, and was very widely read.

DUTREUIL DE RHINS.—On the 6th of August last, news reached France that the celebrated explorer, Jules Dutreuil de Rhins, had been murdered in June of this year by Tibetans, when, after a long sojourn in Central Asia, he was preparing to bring back to Europe the fruit of his travels

and researches. He was born in Saint-Etienne in 1846, and, having entered the French naval service, attained, towards the end of 1870, the rank of captain. In 1876 he was sent to Annam, where he made explorations and for some months commanded an Annamese gunboat. Next year he returned to France, where he was occupied for some years in preparing hydrographic charts of Annam, in writing articles regarding the coast of that country and the province of Hué, and in composing a book giving an account of his voyage and a *résumé* of his observations. At the same time he was patiently examining and collating every available document or record that could throw light on the geography and cartography of South-Eastern Asia, and at length produced as the condensed result of his labours a grand general map of the whole of Indo-China. This map was in 1880 presented to the Paris Geographical Society, and figured in the following year at the International Geographical Congress which was held in Venice.

We find M. Dutreuil de Rhins in 1882 in Egypt, and accompanying from thence M. S. de Brazza to the banks of the river Ogowé in French Congo. The result of this journey to geography was a good survey of the course of the Ogowé, which was published afterwards by the Minister of Instruction. On returning to France he turned his attention to the cartography of Central Asia, which was imperfect and more or less erroneous. He therefore set himself to reconstruct it, and to this end he most carefully scrutinised all the original sources of information. The result of his studies was his comprehensive *Mémoire Géographique sur le Thibet oriental*, with five maps, and his great work, *L'Asie Centrale*, with an atlas of twenty-four maps. It is not surprising that, having completed these labours, he should have wished to visit the regions which had so long occupied his attention. He left France in 1891, accompanied by a young Orientalist, M. Grénard, on an exploring mission to Tibet, of which the charges were to be defrayed by the State. The travellers reached Tashkend early in April, whence, by way of Ferghana and Kashgar, they arrived at Khotan, which they made their headquarters for the exploration of all the surrounding regions. Among other places, they visited Leh, the capital of Ladak, whence they returned to Khotan at the end of November 1892. During the winter M. Dutreuil de Rhins was engaged in arranging his collections and making other preparations for his return to Europe through China. How far he had proceeded on the return journey is not exactly known, further than that he had succeeded in crossing the Astyn Tagh. It is to be hoped that his companion will be able to return and bring with him his journals and collections.

RICHARD SPRUCE.—This distinguished botanist and traveller died on the 29th December 1893 at Castle Howard, Malton, the place of his birth. He was the son of a schoolmaster, and in his early life made himself such a proficient in botany that Sir Joseph Hooker, Von Humboldt, and other leading men of science were led to take an interest in him. Having visited the north of Spain, he produced his work entitled *The Muscology of the Pyrenees*, which attracted

much notice. In 1849 he was sent by the authorities of the Kew Gardens to South America, and during his sojourn there of fifteen years prosecuted investigations rich in results both to botany and geography, and, we may add, to commerce. He crossed the American continent from ocean to ocean, passing through regions which no European before him had visited. He made, also, a thorough exploration of the river Amazons. He was one of the pioneers who introduced the quinine-yielding tree into India. He collected and described some 7000 species of plants and trees, some of which have proved of considerable commercial value. The Government, on his return to England, rewarded his services with a pension. The rest of his life he passed in quiet retirement in his native place.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL SCOTTISH GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

LECTURES IN DECEMBER.

On Dec. 6th, Mr. W. M. Conway, M.A., delivered an address in Edinburgh on "Himalayan Exploration." The chair was taken by Colonel Cadell, V.C.; and a vote of thanks was awarded to the lecturer on the motion of Sir Alex. Christison, Bart.

On Dec. 13th, Dr. H. R. Mill lectured before the Society in Edinburgh on "The Geographical Work of the Future." Professor Copeland presided; and Mr. W. B. Blaikie proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was seconded by Dr. John Murray.

A Christmas lecture to young people was delivered in the Society's Hall on Dec. 27th, by Dr. Wm. Gunn, from the New Hebrides. The subject was, "Among the Cannibals of the South Seas."

LECTURES IN JANUARY.

On Thursday, January 24th, Sir W. Renny Watson will lecture in the Society's Hall, Edinburgh, on "Hawaii."

It is also expected that Mr. Smith, of Glasgow, will deliver a lecture on Andorra at Edinburgh and the Branches.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

By THE ACTING EDITOR.

EUROPE.

Geodetic Measurements.—The measurements executed in Europe during recent years are, according to Professor R. Gauthier of Geneva, as follows:—The old meridian of France has been prolonged northward to the Shetland Isles, and southward to Algeria, extending along an arc of 28°. The arc through Scandinavia, Germany, Austria, and Italy measures 30°, and that through Scandinavia, Russia, and Rumania 27°. The most important parallels measured are: one running from