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Obituary: 1892

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northern hemisphere became warmer, be the first to reach us; they would also be the last to retire as the climate cooled. It would, in fact, require a less change of climate to introduce tropical water-plants and water-animals into our rivers than in the case of land plants. I cannot here enter into the various geological questions that these speculations would affect; it will be sufficient merely to indicate a line of inquiry.

In conclusion, I would point out that in my use of the term of uniformity as applied to aquatic conditions, I have employed it in the sense of their uniformity as compared with land conditions.

OBITUARY: 1892.

By J. W. McCRINDLE, M.A., M.R.A.S.

BELLEW, DR. HENRY WALTER, C.S.I., Surgeon-General, Bengal Army.—This distinguished Indian officer died at Farnham Royal, on the 26th of August last, about six years after his final retirement from service in the East. He was born in India in 1834, the son of Major H. W. Bellew, who perished in the disastrous retreat from Kabul in 1842. He studied medicine in this country, and after acquiring some practical knowledge of the art during the Crimean War, obtained a commission as an Assistant-Surgeon in the Bengal Service, and went out to India, in 1856. He was sent, soon after his arrival, to the Peshawar frontier to take medical charge of the Guides, and not long afterwards was selected to accompany Major (now Sir Henry) Lumsden on his famous mission to Kandahar. Of this mission he published an account, under the title of *Journal of a Mission to Kandahar in 1857 and 1858*. This work, which showed how keen was its author's insight into the subtleties of the Oriental character, was pronounced by the Government of India to be a useful contribution to our knowledge of Afghanistan. His next publication was *A General Report on the Yusufzais*, the material for which he had collected during the Ambeyla Campaign, and while he was Civil Surgeon at Peshawar; and this was followed by his *Grammar and Dictionary of the Pukhto Language*, which long continued to be a work of standard authority. In 1871, and from time to time afterwards, he was employed on political missions, as, for instance, Pollock's mission to Seistan, Goldsmid's to Persia, and Forsyth's to Kashgar and Yarkand. During the Afghan War in 1879, he acted as Chief Political Officer at Kabul, a post for which his intimate knowledge of frontier affairs, as well as his friendship with the Amir Sher Ali, to whom he had acted as interpreter at the Umballa Durbar, peculiarly qualified him. He embodied the knowledge which he acquired by serving on missions in works which are of permanent value. The best known are those entitled *From the Indus to the Tigris*, and *Kashmir and Kashgar*. The elaborate paper on the *Ethnography of Afghanistan*, which he submitted to the International Congress of Orientalists held in 1891, we reviewed at some length in the May number of this Magazine.

Dr. Bellew was married to the sister of a man of kindred spirit and

achievements, the late Sir Charles MacGregor, and has left a family of two sons and two daughters. His death was the result of exposure and overwork during his course of service in the East. He was one of those great Anglo-Indian officers who, by their devotion to duty, their just and kind treatment of the natives, and their sympathetic intercourse with them, have been most effective agents in securing for our rule in India its present popularity and stability.

PELLE, General Sir LEWIS, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., M.P.—Sir Lewis Pelly, after an honourable career of forty years spent in the service of the Indian Government and some years of Parliamentary life at home, died at Falmouth on the 22nd of April last. A tribute in our pages is due to his memory on account of contributions made to our knowledge of Eastern geography, as well as for two long and most daring journeys which he made through regions of which, at the time, very little was known. The first was a ride of 800 miles from Teheran to India by way of Herat and Kandahar, at a time when Afghanistan was in a very disturbed state, and its fierce tribes bore us but scanty goodwill. He, nevertheless, boldly pursued his way through their midst without any escort and under no disguise, but openly wearing the uniform of a British officer. The other journey, that which he made to Riyadh in 1865, when he held the post of Political Agent at Bushire, on the Persian Gulf, was perhaps still more daring and hazardous. Riyadh, situated in the heart of Arabia, is the capital of the Wahabis, the most fanatical and dangerous of all the Mohammedan sects. He reached it after a march of fifteen days through burning sands, and, having had several interviews with the Wahabi Chief, proposed to return to the coast. But it was not the intention of the Riyadh fanatics that he should ever leave their stronghold alive, and it was only by a stratagem, boldly conceived and cleverly executed, that he effected his own escape and that of his retinue.

We can only give a very brief summary of the main incidents of his career. He sprang from a family of position in Gloucestershire, was educated at Rugby, and in 1841, when only sixteen years of age, received a commission in the Indian Army. He was posted to a Bombay native infantry regiment, and eleven years subsequently was transferred to civil employment in Sindh. In 1856 he became captain, and was then appointed personal assistant to General John Jacob, and afterwards political assistant to Sir James Outram. He accompanied the former officer to the Persian War, and, after peace had been concluded, became Secretary of Legation at Teheran, and thereafter *Chargé d'Affaires*, when his relative Sir Henry Rawlinson retired. In 1861 he was sent to act as consul on the East Coast of Africa, and the following year was appointed Political Agent at Bushire. He held this post for eleven years, and was then employed in Rajputana as Agent to the Governor-General. His next appointment, that of Special Commissioner at Baroda, brought him very prominently into public notice, for, while he held it, the Chief of that state, the Marathi Gaikwar, was tried for misgovernment, deposed and exiled, and Pelly thereafter assumed the direct management

of affairs at Baroda. A year or two afterwards he returned to England. He had not, however, yet done with India, for Lord Lytton, when appointed Viceroy, made a special request that he might be accompanied by Pelly. On his final return to this country he took to politics, and having stood as candidate for North Hackney, in the Conservative interest, carried that constituency, and represented it till his death. In Parliament he rendered much useful service both to his party and to his county.

SANDEMAN, Colonel Sir ROBERT GROVES, K.C.S.I.—The British capacity for governing other races has perhaps been nowhere better exemplified than on that great theatre of political and military activity, the Northern frontiers of our Indian Empire. It was there that Sir Robert Sandeman, like his contemporaries, Dr. Bellew and Sir Lewis Pelly, rose to high and well-earned distinction. He entered the Indian Army in 1856; and as the great Mutiny broke out in the year following, he had not long to wait for an opportunity of distinguishing himself in active warfare. In 1859 he was posted to the Punjab, and was employed for the next sixteen years in the administration of various districts on its frontiers. He was next sent to Khelat, in Beluchistan, and having been subsequently appointed the Political Agent for that province, he governed it with conspicuous success until the end of his life. The whole country, before his advent, had been in a state of chronic civil warfare, but, by the straightforward and energetic line of action which he resolutely pursued, he effected its pacification, and that without the aid of an armed force. To adopt the words of a writer in *The Times*, "he gradually transformed a land of predatory war-like tribes, who warred against each other and knew no master, into a country of law and order, with much security for life and property." He rendered important services to Geography by the extensive explorations made in various unknown, or but little known, parts of the spacious regions under his administration. In private life Sir Robert was a man of unassuming and courteous manners. He died under an attack of pneumonia, at Lusbeyla, on the 29th of January last.

STAIRS, Captain WILLIAM GRANT.—Captain Stairs, who won for himself high distinction as an officer of the Emin Relief Expedition, and as one of the most intrepid of African explorers, was cut off in June last at the Chinde mouth of the Zambesi River. He was born at Halifax, in Nova Scotia, and belonged to a family of considerable distinction which had long been settled in that colony. He was sent, when a boy of twelve, to Edinburgh to be educated at Merchiston Castle School, and having remained there for some three years, was transferred to Ontario, to be professionally educated at the Royal Military College, Kingston. Having qualified as a Civil Engineer, he proceeded to New Zealand, where, being employed in surveying, he had his first experience of life under canvas. While thus engaged he received a telegram from the War Office offering him a commission in the Army on condition of his passing the requisite examinations. He quickly

qualified himself at Chatham, and in June 1885 was gazetted a lieutenant in the Royal Engineers. The routine of military duty in time of peace is dull and irksome to "quick bosoms," and Stairs found it all but unbearable. He longed for enterprise, for some sphere of action in which all his pent-up energies would be called into full play; when, therefore, he learned that Stanley was organising his expedition for the relief of Emin, he sent him a letter applying for a post on his staff, and he was at once accepted. To Stanley's experienced eye the letter revealed at a glance the character of its writer. The incidents of the famous expedition have been told by the leader himself in a thrilling narrative which is still so fresh in the public memory that we need scarcely remind our readers of the emphatic terms in which he has repeatedly borne testimony to the high merits of Lieutenant Stairs, his loyalty to duty, his valour and patient endurance of suffering, his quick intelligence, his resource in difficulties, and his unflagging energy. To him were assigned not a few of the tasks involving the highest degree of responsibility. Thus, it was he who was left in charge of Fort Bodo, when Stanley himself went back through the forests to find the rear column, and it was to him also that the important charge of the exploration of Ruwenzori was committed.

Lieutenant Stairs, on returning to England in 1890, was appointed adjutant to the Engineers at Aldershot, and in the following year transferred into a regiment of the line with the rank of captain. It was not long, however, before he again left this country to traverse once more the wilds of Africa, his services having been engaged by the Belgian Katanga Company to conduct an expedition to the south-eastern regions of the Congo Free State. With this expedition he started from the east coast of Africa early in July 1891, and, having reached Lake Tanganyika by the trade route, crossed to the further shore, and marched rapidly forward to the Luapula river and thence to Katanga, which he reached in safety, although the rains had set in, and his route had lain through the swampy regions in which the Congo has its sources. He found the country in a very disturbed state, and therefore led the expedition towards the coast by the Shiré and Zambesi rivers. He had finished his journey, and was waiting for a ship to take him to Zanzibar, when an attack of malarious fever prematurely closed his useful and noble career.

FREEMAN, EDWARD AUGUSTUS, M.A., Hon. D.C.L., LL.D.—By the death of Professor Freeman, who was carried off somewhat suddenly by an attack of small-pox at Alicante, in Spain, on the 16th of March last, England has lost, not only one of her greatest historical writers, but one who, by giving a new impetus and a new direction to the study of the past, may be called the founder of a new School of History. He was the son of Mr. J. Freeman of Pedmore Hall, Worcester, and was born at Harborne, in Staffordshire, in 1823. He received the university part of his education at Trinity College, Oxford, of which he became a Fellow in 1845, and an Honorary Fellow in 1880. In 1884 he was appointed Regius Professor of History at Oxford, and held that office till the close of his life. In the earlier part of his literary career he was a regular contributor to the pages of the *Saturday Review*, and among the most

attractive and memorable of his articles were those in which he described some old town or city of historic interest. He wrote at the same time contributions of greater length to some of the leading *Reviews*, and these were afterwards republished in several volumes under the title of *Historical Essays*. The first works which he published in a separate form were devoted to architectural subjects. Those which followed were chiefly historical, and were so numerous that we cannot here cite their titles. The best known among them is his *History of the Norman Conquest*, which was given to the world in five volumes, between 1867 and 1876, and his treatment of the subject was completed by the *History of the Reign of William Rufus and the Accession of Henry I.* As he desired to be scrupulously exact in all his statements, he made it a point to visit, if possible, the scenes of the transactions which his pen had to record, and his works thus abound with geographical descriptions alike valuable and interesting. He wrote, besides, a special work on geography, entitled *The Historical Geography of Europe*. Here he began with the Homeric age, and traced the successive changes the map of Europe has undergone from that remote era down to our own times.

Dr. Freeman was a very clear and forcible writer; but as he aimed less at brilliancy of style than at precision in stating the results of his researches, his productions have not had the same power of fascination for the general reader as those of Macaulay. He was inferior also to Macaulay as a literary artist; for his *Histories* are not only projected on too vast a scale, but fashioned without proper regard to symmetry, events of comparative insignificance being accorded an amplitude of treatment due only to those of far greater intrinsic importance. It has thus been said of him that he lost himself in the immensity of his materials. His merits and defects are all alike conspicuous in his last great work, *The History of Sicily*, which, unfortunately, he did not live to complete. The three large volumes which have appeared only carry down the history of the island to the Athenian siege and the tyranny of Dionysius. In politics Dr. Freeman was a Liberal, and, like Mill and Morley, sought to enter Parliament in that interest after his literary fame had been established, but he did not, like them, find a seat.

MACGREGOR, MR. JOHN, M.A.—Mr. John MacGregor, who has delighted so many readers with the bright and humorous descriptions of his voyages made in the *Rob Roy* yawl and canoe, was the son of General Sir D. MacGregor, and was born at Gravesend in the beginning of the year 1825. Only a few weeks afterwards he met with a misadventure at sea, for, with his father and mother, he was on board the *Kent*, East India-man, which was destroyed by fire in the Bay of Biscay. During his boyhood he was taken about from place to place with the regiment in which his father served, and his education was thus of a desultory nature until he began his university career. He studied first at Trinity College, Dublin, and afterwards at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took his degree and passed as a wrangler. A prominent element in his character was a passion for travelling, and this he freely indulged through most of his life. After leaving college he visited many countries of the Old

World, and, among others, Russia, Palestine, Egypt, Tunis, and Algeria. He was in Paris during the stormy period of the Revolution of 1848. In the preceding year he had entered the Inner Temple, and in 1851 he was called to the Bar. He then paid a visit to the New World, which resulted in a work descriptive of what he had seen in the course of his travels through the United States and Canada. In 1866 he rose to fame as an attractive writer by the publication of his volume entitled *A Thousand Miles in the Rob Roy Canoe on the Rivers and Lakes of Europe*. The works of a similar nature which he afterwards gave to the world stand equally high in popular esteem. His *Rob Roy on the Jordan*, indeed, is perhaps the best known of all his productions. We have only to add that Mr. MacGregor was a man of wide sympathies, of active benevolence, and of sterling worth of character.

M. HENRI DUVEYRIER.—During the year that has just closed, France has had to deplore the loss of more than one of her sons who have gained distinction as travellers and explorers of unknown regions. Three such call for mention here; and first Henri Duveyrier, who, upwards of thirty years ago, proceeded to Africa to prosecute researches in the great desert lying to the south of the Atlas regions, into which no one had attempted to penetrate since the days of Barth and Richardson. He carefully noted and described the features of the countries through which his routes lay, so that those who subsequently travelled in the same parts acknowledged the rigorous exactitude, and consequent usefulness of his indications. The map, for the construction of which he had brought home the seventy-four sheets, gained for him in 1864 the great Gold Medal of the Paris Geographical Society. He left incomplete the work in which he intended to embody his travelling experiences. Only one volume of it has been published.

M. PAUL CRAMPEL, who was a man of letters with a proclivity towards philosophy, was appointed in November, 1886, by the French Minister of Public Instruction, to conduct a scientific mission into the western parts of Equatorial Africa. This mission started about three months later with M. Savorgnan de Brazza, the Commissioner-General of the French Congo territory, who appointed Crampel to the post of his private secretary. Eleven months afterwards, when Brazza was on the point of returning to France, Crampel, who was ambitious to signalise himself as an explorer, requested to be supplied with means for the equipment and conduct of an exploring expedition. Brazza assented, and instructed him to make Lastrouville, on the Ogooué, his point of departure, and to proceed thence northwards to the 2d degree of north latitude, and then to return towards the coast between the rivers Campo and Benito. Crampel accordingly made explorations in the direction indicated, and eventually made his way to the coast with a bullet in his thigh, worn out and dreadfully emaciated by the sufferings he had undergone. The results of his journey were of no small geographical importance. He ascertained a great part of the real course of the Ivindo, with three of its affluents on the left, and five on the right, and assigned to its sources their true

position. He further discovered the Jah, and correctly determined part of the course of the river Komm and several of its affluents. At the same time he rectified the Spanish charts of the river Benito, and, above all, discovered the sources of the N'Tem, which appear to be those of the river Campo. He returned to Paris in 1889. Here he conceived the ambitious design in the prosecution of which he forfeited his life. This design, to use the formula in which his friend Alis has expressed it, was *to unite along the Central Soudan our possessions of Algiers and Tunis, of the Senegal and of the Congo, and thus to found in Africa the greatest colonial empire in the world.* Of this empire, Lake Tchad was to form, as it were, the centre; and the scheme contemplated expeditions working southwards from Algiers and Tunis towards that lake, and others working northwards towards it from the Congo. Crampel, to carry out one part of this great design, was leading an expedition northwards from the Oubanghi to the lake, when he was deserted by his escort, and assassinated by a party of Musulmans, who had sprung upon him from an ambush. The news of his death was brought to Europe in a letter from his associate, M. Nebout, dated Brazzaville, the 24th July, 1891, from which it appeared that the unfortunate traveller had met his fate in the month of March of that year.

M. JOSEPH MARTIN.—This distinguished French traveller, whose explorations have much extended our knowledge of Eastern Siberia, died in May last at Marghilan, of an illness occasioned by over-fatigue, severe privations, and other hardships. He was cut off in the prime of life, for he had only reached his forty-third year. His first journey to Siberia was made in 1879, at the instance of a mining company, which engaged his services on account of his skill in mineralogy. In his second journey he traversed the unknown region included between the Lena and the Amoor, and ascertained the real courses of the Vitim and the Olekma, and of several of their affluents, which had been erroneously traced in maps. He at the same time determined the watershed which parts the basins of these two vast rivers. His numerous itineraries in parts entirely unknown were duly appreciated at St. Petersburg, and General Stubendorf, the military cartographer, used his notes for producing a correct map of the country which he had traversed. M. Martin followed the most effective plan for acquiring a real knowledge of the tribes with which he came into contact: he lived with them, followed their caravans, studied their manners, and minutely observed their distinctive racial peculiarities. On returning to France, he enriched the museums both of Paris and Lyons, by presenting each with considerable portions of his sketches and collections. The *Commission des Prix* awarded him in 1887 a gold medal for his important services. In the following year M. Martin undertook his third and last journey. His intention was now to visit those regions where China and Eastern Siberia are continuous. In the spring of the succeeding year we find him exploring Kan-sou, visiting Peking, and thence directing his steps towards Lan-chou. On arriving in broken-down health at Marghilan, which is in Russian territory, he was treated with unremitting care and kindness in the military hospital of that place, but he was past recovery.