

WILEY



Stone Figures in China

Author(s): H. W. Trinder

Source: *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 22, No. 3 (Sep., 1903), p. 338

Published by: geographicalj

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1775207>

Accessed: 26-06-2016 20:43 UTC

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at
<http://about.jstor.org/terms>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.



Wiley, The Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) are collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to The Geographical Journal

for France, at least, the arithmetical mean of the temperatures observed for any given month for a series of years is at the same time the most probable value of such temperature, and the one which will occur most frequently. The employment of means is therefore justified for France and for the particular meteorological element in question, but Prof. Angot notes that in the case of rainfall the significance of the mean is more than open to doubt. This seems borne out by the recent calculation of the mean rainfall of London for a series of years, given in 'British Rainfall' for 1902, which shows that the results on the basis of 90 years' observations are decidedly different from those on one of 60. Prof. Angot also notes that his period of fifty years is not sufficiently long to give the absolute mean with any great exactness. Would it not, however, be the case that, granted the possibility of long-period variations of climatic elements, the mean obtained from observations within a less number of years would give more nearly the probable value of any element within the same period than one based on a longer series?

GENERAL.

Commercial Geography at Manchester.—Mr. John McFarlane, M.A. (Edinburgh and Cantab.), has been appointed Lecturer in Political and Commercial Geography in the Owens College, Manchester. Mr. McFarlane has hitherto devoted his attention to history and economics, but we understand that he will spend a term at the School of Geography at Oxford before entering on his duties at Manchester.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Stone Figures in China.

Northbrook House, Bishops Waltham, Hants, August 11, 1903.
As regards "Stone Figures in China," p. 210 of the August *Geographical Journal*, Mr. Bourne's "Notes of a journey to the Imperial Mausolea East of Peking" (*Proc. R.G.S.* (1883), vol. v. p. 23) show that stone figures of men and animals in parallel rows line the approaches to some of the tombs of the present Manchu dynasty; the explanation given by a Chinese, and accepted by Mr. Bourne, being "the stone figures are to a dead emperor what the pageantry and display of a court are to the living one." The Manchus may have adopted this custom from the Chinese, and, if so, the explanation given to Dr. Sewell McFarlane that the stone figures he saw were at the entrance to the tomb of a prime minister is probably correct. Mr. Bourne refers to a paper in the *Journal* of the Shanghai Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society for 1878, by Mr. W. F. Myers, "On the Stone Figures at Chinese Tombs, and Offerings of Living Sacrifice," which may throw more light on the subject.

H. W. TRINDER.

GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE OF THE MONTH.

Additions to the Library.

By EDWARD HEAWOOD, M.A., *Librarian*, R.G.S.

The following abbreviations of nouns and the adjectives derived from them are employed to indicate the source of articles from other publications. Geographical names are in each case written in full:—