



The Ancient Ophir

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Source: *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (Aug., 1899), p. 220

Published by: [The Royal Geographical Society \(with the Institute of British Geographers\)](#)

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1774347>

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The name of Lake Cochrane was given to Lake Pueyrreton by Chilian explorers posteriorly to its discovery and survey by my assistants. River Las Heras (river Baker of Dr. Steffen) is not a Chilian river in its entire extension; it cuts the Cordillera of the Andes.

I think it necessary to make these explanations to avoid confusion in the geography of Patagonia.

FRANCISCO P. MORENO.

The Ancient Ophir.

Grahamstown, Cape Colony, May 1, 1899.

I have read with much pleasure the excellent article by Dr. Schlichter on his Rhodesian explorations. As one of the old members of the Royal Geographical Society, it gives me great satisfaction to see our *Journal* the medium of conveying satisfactory information upon that difficult problem, "Where was the Ophir of King Solomon?" Under an arrangement with the B.S.A. Company and Mr. Rhodes, I proceeded to search the principal libraries of Europe in 1895, and found a key to the study of the archæology of South-Eastern Africa in the Phœnician ruins of Sardinia. My book, entitled, 'Monomotapa (Rhodesia): Its Monuments and its History, from the most Ancient Times to the Present Century,' draws exactly the same conclusions as those arrived at by Dr. Schlichter. There is only one point in which my researches force me to differ from that gentleman. There was certainly an Ophir in South-Eastern Africa, but there was also another on the Malabar coast of India. As in the northern hemisphere there were two "Tarshishes," so in the southern hemisphere there were two Ophirs. This theory reconciles seeming contradictions, and is most reasonable, as merely a rich country is signified by the name. The question is fully treated in the work just quoted, and in it is published an ancient map of South-East Africa, which the authorities of the Vatican allowed me to photograph there.

A. WILMOT.

MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, SESSION 1898-1899.

Twelfth Ordinary Meeting, June 19, 1899.—Sir CLEMENTS MARKHAM,
K.C.B., President, in the Chair.

ELECTIONS.—George Beetham; W. M. Coldstream, R.E.; Cortlandt D. Godfrey; R. Gordon-Smith; W. St. C. Muscroft (1st Regiment Central India Horse); Richard Ellis Potter; William Redshaw, B.A.; Robert Taylor, M.A.

The Paper read was:—

"Exploration between Lake Rudolf and the Nile." By Colonel J. R. L. Macdonald, R.E.

Thirteenth Ordinary Meeting, June 26, 1899.—General Sir CHARLES W.
WILSON, R.E., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The Paper read was:—

"Road-Making and Surveying in British East Africa." By Captain G. E. Smith, R.E.