

OBITUARY NOTICES.

SIR R. F. BURTON, K.C.M.G.

Our Vice-President, Sir Richard Francis Burton, K.C.M.G., was born 19th March, 1821, and died at his Consulate at Trieste on 20th October, 1890. He was the eldest of the three children of Colonel Joseph N. Burton. He entered Trinity College, Oxford, in 1840, but soon got tired of University life. An appointment was obtained for him from the East India Company to the 14th regiment Bombay Native Infantry, and he joined his regiment at Gujerat in 1842. His proficiency in Hindustani led to his being appointed regimental interpreter, and his residence with his regiment in Scinde gave rise to the publication, in 1851, of his first important work, "Scinde, or the Unhappy Valley." In 1846-47 he took a six months' trip to Goa and the Blue Mountains, an account of which he also published in 1851. In addition to the work upon official reports incidental to his regimental duties, he applied himself to linguistic studies, and mastered the Persian, Gujerati, and Marathi languages. He returned to England in 1849. On 3rd April, 1853, he undertook his hazardous but successful pilgrimage to El Medinah and Meccah, the account of which, in three volumes, he published in 1855. On his return, he was selected for an even more perilous undertaking, that of proceeding to the Somali country. In November, 1854, he set out from Zeila, disguised as an Arab merchant, and reached Harrar in safety on 4th January, 1855, remaining there till the 13th. He was the first Englishman who had ever entered that famous city. He returned to Aden with a view of arranging for an expedition to the Upper Nile *via* Harrar, and landed at Berbera on 7th April at the head of a party of 42 men.

The expedition never left Berbera. On the night of the 29th April it was attacked by a crowd of Somalis, Burton and his companion, Speke, were severely wounded, and the expedition returned to Aden. In the following year he published his "First Footsteps in East Africa," and also addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, strongly urging the importance of Berbera and the Somali coast for British interests in the Red Sea. This letter procured for him from the Government of India the appropriate reward of a severe snubbing.

He next offered himself for service in the Crimean war, and joined Beatson's Horse at the Dardanelles. He volunteered to relieve Kars, but his offer was not accepted, and he returned to

England determined to devote himself for the future to exploration.

He then undertook, with the assistance of the Government and the Royal Geographical Society, his great African expedition. Having obtained two years' leave of absence from the East India Company, he reached Zanzibar in December, 1856, accompanied by Lieut. Speke. After infinite labour and suffering, the expedition resulted in the discovery, by Burton, of Lake Tanganyika, and by Speke of Lake Victoria Nyanza. It terminated in March, 1859, and is recorded in the 29th volume of the "Journal of the Royal Geographical Society," and in Burton's work on "The Lake Region of Equatorial Africa."

In 1861 he published an account of a visit to Utah under the title of "The City of the Saints," and in the same year occurred his marriage to the lady whose admirable devotion to him we have had many opportunities of witnessing, and his appointment as Consul at Fernando Po. In the same year he explored the Cameroons mountains.

So far, we are indebted for the facts of his life to the excellent memoir in the December number of the "Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society," but from this point our own Proceedings take it up, for he joined the Ethnological Society in 1861, when Hunt was its Honorary Secretary, and almost every principal event of his life since then has been recorded by some communication to our transactions. Burton had then just obtained a commission from the English Government to visit Dahome, and induce the ruler of that savage country to modify some of his customs. Before his departure, Hunt induced him to address to the Society some notes on Du Chaillu's explorations and adventures in Equatorial Africa, in which he said that Du Chaillu had well and veraciously studied the then new and curious race of which he had treated, and that every page produced upon his mind the effect of the bugle upon the cast charger after a year or two in the cabshafts of civilization.

From the 10th to the 17th April, 1862, he visited the source of the Gaboon, and spent a day among the Fans, which he described in a paper before the Ethnological Society, and in an article in the "Anthropological Review."

On the establishment of the Anthropological Society on 6th January, 1863, he took the Chair at the inaugural meeting, and was elected a Vice-President.

From 18th May to 17th June, 1863, he visited Kana, a ruined town in Dahome, and further prosecuted his mission to that country between 8th December, 1863, and 26th February, 1864, a stay long enough to learn something of the Ffon language. He gave an account of his visits to the Ethnological Society on 22nd November, 1864. The gallant old race of Dahome, he said, "had been killed out; it was pleasing to remark the gradual but sure advance of El Islam, the perfect cure for the disorders which ruled the land." On his return, he wrote a letter to the Wesleyan Mis-

sionary Committee, acknowledging the kindness of Mr. Bernasco, their Missionary. In the same year he visited the cataracts of the Congo river. He also edited General Marcy's "Prairie Traveller."

On 23rd October, 1863, he sent to the Anthropological Society a present of two skulls from Annabom, in the West African seas.

In 1864 he contributed to the "Anthropological Review" notes on scalping and on Waitz's anthropology, and published the account in two volumes of his mission to Dahome.

On his return to England he became a frequent attendant at the meetings of the Anthropological Society. On 1st November he read a paper on certain matters connected with the Dahomans, which appears in Vol. i of its "Memoirs." It was in the discussion on this paper that he first referred to the Society as the "refuge for destitute truth."

In 1865 he was appointed Consul at Santos, Brazil, and before his departure, a farewell dinner was given to him by members of the society, Lord Stanley (now Earl of Derby) in the chair, supported by Mr. (now Lord) Arthur Russell, the late Lord Houghton, Lord Milton, and others. From Santos he sent to the Society a paper on a hermaphrodite from the Cape de Verde Islands ("Memoirs," Vol. ii), and on a kitchen midden at Santos (11th December, 1865).

At the annual meeting of the Society in 1867, Dr. Hunt, its first President, took the newly created office of Director, and Captain Burton, though absent, was elected President in his place. Dr. Hunt, however, returned to that office the following year.

In 1869, Burton published, in two volumes, his "Explorations of the Highlands of the Brazil," to which Mrs. Burton wrote a characteristic and touching preface.

After the union of the Ethnological and Anthropological Societies, he contributed to the Institute in November and December, 1871, having then become Consul at Damascus, an account of the collections made by him in the Holy Land. He then said, "the two Societies always should have been one." In March, 1872, he read a paper on the Hamath stones, now famous as the Hittite inscriptions, and the Council published his transcripts of them.

In the summer of 1872, he went to Iceland and forwarded thence for exhibition a collection of human remains and other articles, which were described by Mr Carter Blake. He obtained promotion to the Consulate at Trieste, and thence sent a translation of the work of M. Gerber on the primordial inhabitants of Minas Geraes, the great central province of Brazil.

At the beginning of 1873, some of our members seceded and formed the London Anthropological Society. Among them was Captain Burton, who became one of its Vice-Presidents. In a letter to our then Director, he gave as his reason "the deadly shade of respectability, the trail of the slow-worm, is over them all." That Society existed for three years, at the end of which the breach was happily healed, and the Institute has remained a united body ever since. Meanwhile, Captain Burton's contributions to the science

were made to the new Society and appeared in its Journal, "Anthropologia." They comprised an account of the kitchen middens of Saõ Paulo, Brazil, and notes on the Castellieri or prehistoric ruins of the Istrian peninsula.

In 1875 he again became a contributor to our Journal, to which he sent papers on the Long Wall of Salona, and the ruined cities of Pharia and Gelsa di Lesina, in the neighbourhood of Trieste. In 1877 he sent us a collection of 50 flint flakes from Egypt, and a further paper on the Castellieri of Istria; in 1878 a paper on stones and bones from Egypt and Midian. In 1882 he was again among us, and read a paper at a special meeting held at the house of General Pitt Rivers on stone implements from the Gold Coast of West Africa. His last communication to us was made through Dr. Tylor, on 27th March, 1888, describing the two Akka boys brought to Europe by Miani.

The enumeration of his contributions to science through our own and other institutes, and of his amazing labour as an explorer does not exhaust the record of the services to mankind of the versatile and accomplished friend and colleague whose loss we have to lament. His translation of the *Lusiads* of Camoens, and his thorough if too daring version of the "Thousand and One Nights" will give him a permanent place in literature. His friend Winwood Reade, wrote of him, "He is in the truest sense of the word a cosmopolitan. He is versed in the cardinal languages of Europe, skilled in all the accomplishments of a soldier and a sportsman, a good classical scholar; a profound orientalist, and has considerable knowledge of the natural sciences. With all this, he is a thorough man of the world."

This witness is true. He was too original and too independent to be a popular man in official circles, and their neglect of him is not surprising.

The tardy reward of a Knight Commandership of St. Michael and St. George was hardly worthy of his distinguished services to his country, but he had already written his name so high in the annals of its great explorers that no handle was needed to distinguish it. The memory his colleagues in this Institute have of their association with him is that of a man whose personal qualities were as loveable as his genius was admirable.

E. W. BRABROOK.

MR. GEORGE HARRIS, LL.D., F.S.A.

George Harris, Hon. LL.D. (Grenville), and F.S.A., was for several years a Vice-President of the Institute. He caused to be printed, for private circulation, under the genial editorship of his friend, Dr. B. W. Richardson, F.R.S., in the year 1888, an interesting autobiography, from which we are able to glean the principal events in his life. He was born 6th May, 1809, the son of a solicitor in good practice at Rugby, and received his early education at the famous school there. Being in delicate health, and suffering from the ill-usage then common in public schools, he left Rugby in 1823, and was strangely enough entered as a midshipman in the Navy. It is hardly necessary to say that it was soon found that he was not suited for the hardships of naval life, and after some unpleasant experience at a private school in Devon, he was articled to his father, and finally admitted into the firm as a partner. An ambition for literary success and a desire for London life possessed him, and in June, 1838, he gave up his prospects at Rugby and came to London. He shortly afterwards entered himself as a student at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. In 1839 he was appointed editor of the *Hull Times*, and became a member of the Middle Temple. An article in his paper which offended a powerful interest led to the close of his journalistic career, and he thereupon resolved earnestly to prepare for the bar. He was called in 1843, and devoted himself to law and literature for some years, bringing out his "Life of Lord Chancellor Hardwicke," a work which gained him considerable reputation, and procured him the honour of an interview with the Prince Consort, in 1847. Not finding the road to fortune in either of those pursuits, he thought of marriage. The chapter in his autobiography which tells how he turned this matter over in his mind is charmingly quaint and naive, but the result in his wooing and winning Miss Elizabeth Innes was, as far as he was concerned, to place him beyond anxiety about money matters for the rest of his life, and to assure him happiness which seems never to have been interrupted, and as far as his friends were concerned to enable him to introduce them to a most graceful and kindly hostess. In 1861 he published "Civilization considered as a Science." In 1862 he was appointed by Lord Chancellor Westbury to be Registrar of the Court of Bankruptcy in Manchester. It was while acting in this capacity that he became a Fellow of the Anthropological Society of London, and President of the Manchester Anthropological Society, of which he delivered the inaugural address on 1st November, 1866. He was elected on our Council in 1868, early in which year he retired from the public

service, and was awarded the liberal pension of £666 13s. 4d. per annum. He had bought and enlarged the ancient manor house of Iselipps, standing in beautiful grounds in the village of Northolt, Middlesex, and there he spent the rest of his days. It was a yearly gratification to him, as long as his health permitted it, to invite his anthropological and antiquarian friends to pass a summer day with him. In 1869 he read a paper before the Anthropological Society on the distinctions, mental and moral, occasioned by the difference of sex. In 1871 he was elected a Vice-President, and was among those selected to retain that position on the formation of this Institute. In 1872 and 1873 he read papers before us on "The Hereditary Transmission of Endowments and Qualities of Different Kinds"; "On the Comparative Longevity of Animals of Different Species and of Man, and the Probable Causes which mainly conduce to promote this Difference"; "On Moral Irresponsibility resulting from Insanity"; "On the Concurrent Contemporaneous Progress of Renovation and Waste in Animated Frames, and the extent to which such Operations are Controllable by Artificial Means"; and "On Theories Regarding Intellect and Instinct, with an Attempt to deduce a Satisfactory Conclusion therefrom." He joined the London Anthropological Society in November, 1873, and read a paper to them on "Tests Adapted to Determine the Truth of Supernatural Phenomena." In 1875 and 1876 he was again elected a Vice-President of the Institute. In the latter year he completed an undertaking which had been in his mind, as he tells us, from his very boyhood, that of writing "A Philosophical Treatise on the Nature and Constitution of Man." (2 vols.). The work was reviewed in our journal, and it is interesting to the writer of this memoir, who was also the writer of that review, to find that his friend (who did not know that fact), calls it in his diary "very fair and temperate." It is clear we did not allow friendship to betray us into undue enthusiasm. It will be seen that the bent of Dr. Harris's mind was towards psychological subjects, and, thinking we did not give adequate attention to that branch of anthropology, he joined the late Sergeant Cox in the formation of the Psychological Society. Since then we have seen little of him in these rooms. The weight of years has made his visits to London less and less frequent, though he continued to write in *Modern Thought* and other periodicals for some years longer. It will be seen from what we have said that he possessed a remarkably versatile mind, much varied ability, and great literary talent. Dr. Richardson justly speaks in high praise of his qualities of untiring industry, good humour, and constructive skill. We shall always remember him in this Institute as a colleague and fellow-worker who earned our respect by his accomplishments, our esteem by his high character, and our gratitude by his friendship, which no differences of opinion were ever allowed to interrupt.

E. W. BRABROOK.

DR. H. MUIRHEAD.

In Dr. Henry Muirhead, of Bushyhill, Cambuslang, near Glasgow, his friends must regret an amiable, warmhearted, and intellectual man, and this Institute a valuable supporter. He was born in 1814 in one of the suburbs of Glasgow, and was not gifted by fortune in the outset of his life, being one of those offspring of whom Scotland is so justly proud, whose ambition, energy, perseverance, self-denial, and intellectual power, enable them to triumph over the greatest external disadvantages. After prolonged effort, he was able to afford himself a full University course, and took the degree of M.D. at Glasgow in 1844. He subsequently turned his attention to the department of mental disease, was superintendent, and afterwards proprietor, of a lunatic asylum, and retired with a competent fortune to Cambuslang in 1867. There he devoted himself to the study of science, especially of metaphysics and meteorology, and, by liberal contributions of money as well as by personal effort, to the fostering of scientific progress in Glasgow. He was LL.D. of Glasgow University, *honoris causâ*, President of the Philosophical Society of Glasgow, Governor of Anderson's College there, and of the West of Scotland Technical College; he was a founder of the Public Library and Working Men's Social Union at Cambuslang, and also founded, at a cost of £2,500, the demonstratorship of physiology in Glasgow University which is called by his name. There are doubtless members of the Institute present who will remember how, at the York meeting of the British Association, after Professor Flower, from the chair of Anthropology, had made an eloquent appeal on behalf of our Institute, showing how it was crippled in its publications and other work by the lack of means, Dr. Muirhead, then sitting on the platform, quietly handed over a cheque for 100 'guineas to the Chairman, with the characteristic stipulation that his name should not be mentioned.

Dr. Muirhead closed his useful and blameless life on July 31st, at Cambuslang, at the ripe age of 76.

J. BEDDOE.

MISS NORTH.

Miss Marianne North, born 1830, died 1890, was the eldest daughter of Frederick North, Esq., of Rougham Hall, Norfolk, for many years M.P. for Hastings, and representative of a family eminent in English history. She was well known to the public through the unique and beautiful Museum presented by her to the Royal Gardens at Kew. She built it at her own cost, and covered its walls with her exact and gorgeous paintings of flowers of all parts of the world. The passion Miss North felt for flowers and for painting them, and her great love of travel, suggested the pursuit she followed during twenty years, with strenuous exertion. Her aim was to paint true portraits, so to speak, of all the more important flowers in the midst of their native surroundings, especially of those that are rapidly disappearing before the advance of colonization and agriculture.

In at least eight different journeys she travelled through the border lands of civilisation in North and South America, India, Australasia, and the Cape, besides visiting numerous islands in search of their characteristic flowers. She succeeded admirably in her arduous and self-imposed task, and permanently secured the results in the Museum above referred to. Latterly, her overtaxed strength gave way, and she died in the home she had made for herself at Alderley, in Gloucestershire, where she turned a small garden into a marvel of botanical interest as well as of floral beauty.

It has often happened that botanists have succeeded in establishing the friendliest relations with the inhabitants of the country they visit, for their pursuit is one that attracts the sympathy and goodwill of all classes from the highest to the lowest. Miss North was a conspicuous instance of this success. She made warm friendships and gained esteem wherever she went, so that numerous persons at home and abroad turned to her with a common sense of loyal admiration. Society has been deprived, by her death, of a lady of a warmly sympathetic nature, of rare intellectual gifts and accomplishments, and of a noble and womanly character.

FRANCIS GALTON.
