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Death of Sir Clements Markham

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DEATH OF SIR CLEMENTS MARKHAM.

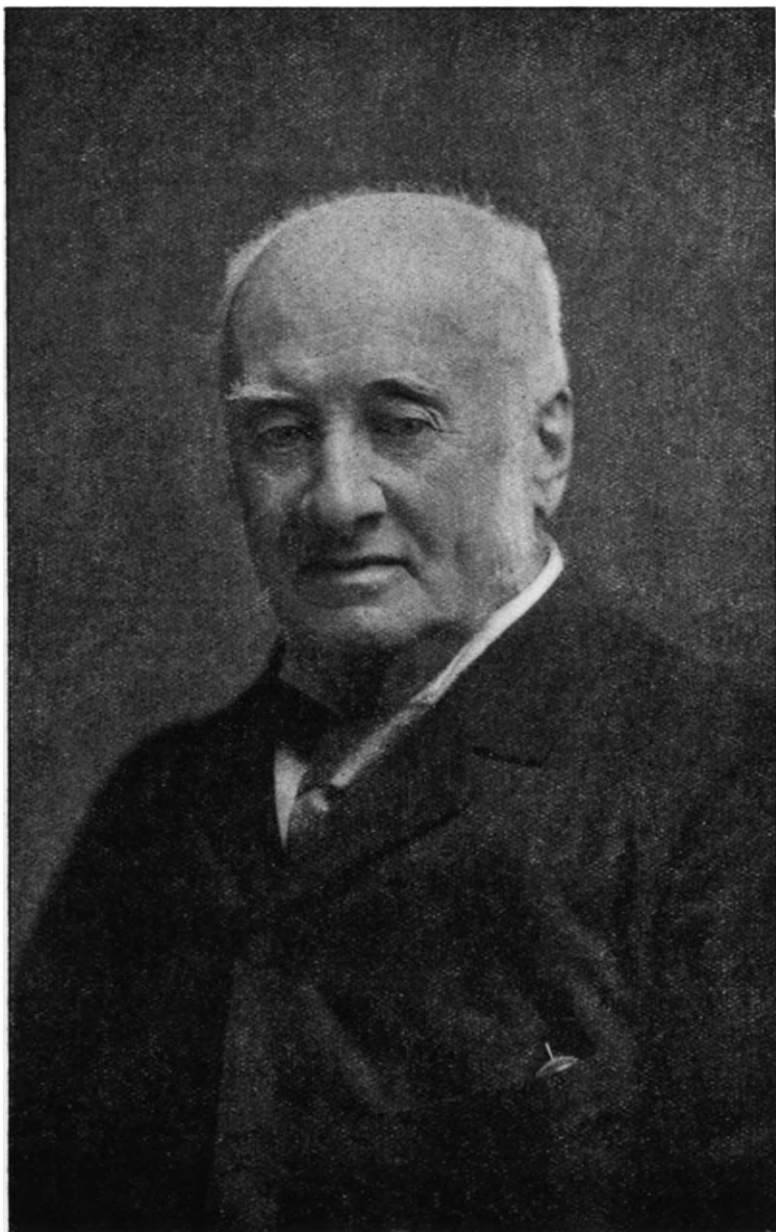
THE Fellows of the Society will receive with deep regret the announcement of the death of Sir Clements R. Markham, K.C.B., F.R.S., on 30 January 1916, in his 86th year. His death was the result of shock caused by burns from a fire in his bedroom on the previous day.

MINUTE OF COUNCIL 7 FEBRUARY 1916.

“The Council desire to place on record their profound sense of the loss which the Society and Geography have sustained by the death of Sir Clements Markham.

“Sir Clements Markham had been intimately connected with the Society for over sixty years, during the greater part of which he was officially associated with its affairs. From the years 1863 to 1888, that is for a quarter of a century, he was serving as one of its Honorary Secretaries. For twelve years, from 1893 to 1905, the longest period on record, he held the office of President. During all this time he was indefatigable in the promotion of the objects for which the Society exists. He took a prominent part in all the developments of its work, scientific and educational. By his sympathy and keen interest he did much to further exploration in all parts of the world. The recent renewal of Antarctic exploration on a large scale was mainly due to his initiative, enthusiasm, and energy. By his sympathetic attitude towards all the members of the Staff he secured devoted loyalty not only to himself but to the best interests of the Society. His death will be felt as a personal loss by geographers all the world over.

“The Council desire to assure Lady Markham and the family of their deep sympathy in the loss which they have sustained.”



Frontispiece

Photo: Johnston and Hofmann

SIR CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM, K.C.B., F.R.S.

The following tribute to the memory of Sir Clements Markham was paid by the President, Mr. Douglas W. Freshfield, at the Meeting of the Society on February 7 :

It would be, I am sure, contrary to your feelings were I to proceed to the ordinary business of this evening without any reference to the loss the Society has suffered since we last met by the death of Sir Clements Markham, a loss which breaks many links with the past. Sir Clements Markham joined the Society in 1853, 63 years ago. He became one of your Honorary Secretaries in 1863; he held that office for 25 years until 1888. In 1893 he was elected President, and in that capacity ruled the Society for 12 years, a longer term of continuous office than had fallen to any of his predecessors in this chair.

Were I to attempt to recount in any detail the amount of geographical and literary work done by Sir Clements in his long, varied and strenuous career I should occupy the whole evening. That may be done elsewhere. To-night I can only indicate a few of its leading features.

Entering the navy at 14 he left it at 22, after having taken part in a Franklin Search expedition. This early experience, at once recorded in his first book, largely directed his energy as a lifelong and ardent investigator of Polar enterprise.

For the moment, however, with characteristic versatility, he turned his attention to Peru, and his journey there and the volume that recorded it led to his being subsequently employed by the India Office, into whose service he had entered, to transplant to India the cinchona plant, a work which must in itself entitle Markham to perpetual remembrance as a benefactor to mankind.

His official connection with the India Office drew his attention to another of the countries which became his special study, Tibet. He also followed with a very special interest the progress of the great Survey of India.

But in the quarter of a century during which he was one of our Honorary Secretaries, and for the succeeding twenty years, during which he was mostly either on the Council or acting as President, his main sphere of activity was in the affairs of our Society. During a part of this time, some seven years, I served with him as an Honorary Secretary, and I can speak therefore with personal and intimate knowledge of some of the work he accomplished.

When Markham first joined the Society, its fortunes, though not at their lowest ebb, were only slowly recovering from a time of great depression. Its Fellows hardly numbered 1000: they are now over 5000. The man who mainly restored its fortune was, needless to say, Sir Roderick Murchison.

In 1871 Murchison passed away, and for many years the Presidency was held by men of high distinction in public life, but most of them with

separate interests and not all of them geographical experts. Consequently the impulses which directed the actions of the Society came largely from the Honorary Secretaries and their most able coadjutor the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Bates. Like most large committees our Council was apt to be conservative and somewhat suspicious of novel proposals. It did its work handsomely in encouraging and speeding departing explorers and in welcoming them on their return. After Sir Roderick's time and Livingstone, there came to us many other great Africans, Burton, Speke, Grant, Galton, Baker and Stanley, Thomson and Selous. It was the era of the Dark Continent's discovery. But in more domestic work there was a need for active initiative, and to this Markham largely contributed.

One of his chief and most fruitful successes was the foundation of the monthly *Proceedings*, which was the forerunner of the *Geographical Journal*. England had at that time no geographical magazine that could compare with the German *Petermanns*. Efforts to found one independently were made by Bates and Markham, but the public did not respond. Some members of our Council were afraid both of the expense and (oddly enough, one sees now) of some injury to the dignity of the Society by its issuing a monthly magazine. The thin end of the wedge was got in when a sanction was obtained to the issue of *Proceedings*. These under the admirable editorship first of Bates and afterwards of Dr. Keltie, developed by successive steps into the present *Journal*, the first geographical periodical of the world, a publication which has rejoiced our Fellows and carried the fame of the Society over the four continents.

In promoting education also Markham was energetic. His own special interests were the Training Ships *Worcester* and *Conway* for educating boys for the Navy and Mercantile Marine, and the Scientific Education in Surveying for Intending Travellers, which, under Mr. Coles and Mr. Reeves, has developed into a system of the greatest service to the National Services, to young officers and future colonial administrators. On the wider proposals for insisting on the place of Geography in National Education and backing the Society's endeavour by grants towards the maintenance of Schools of Geography at Oxford and Cambridge, Markham looked at first with some hesitation. But I remember with pleasure that it was partly through my persuasion that he overcame any doubts; and the scheme once launched, he joined with all his customary energy in its furtherance—in fact, he adopted it as his own.

There were many minor improvements effected under his auspices as Secretary. I may mention the use of lantern-slides at our lectures. I betray, perhaps, a secret when I tell you that the first time they were used the Honorary Secretaries did not dare to consult the Council beforehand for fear the suggestion should be condemned as beneath the reputation of the Society. The Meeting, however, greeted the innovation with so much applause that no question was raised and the practice has become permanent.

In 1893, after the passing storm which for a time postponed the admission of Lady Fellows into the Society, the Council turned to their former Honorary Secretary to compose the troubled waters as President.

As a Secretary Markham had been a moving spirit, as President he became a controlling power. For twelve years—years of great prosperity to the Society—he directed its affairs with a strenuous hand. An innovator, when his enthusiasm was aroused, he was also a strong upholder, almost a worshipper of our rules and traditions. The outstanding feature of his long Presidency was the revival of Antarctic Exploration. For this object no discouragement could thwart his combative energy; for years he wrestled with indifferent Chancellors of the Exchequer until he finally got his grant, or argued forcibly with fellow men of science in support of his own views on the aims and organization of the expeditions. Even if there was at times some resultant friction there was constant movement and a successful result.

To Captain Scott Markham had a personal devotion, and the first success and subsequent disaster of the gallant explorer were perhaps the greatest joy and distress of his life.

Of Markham's literary career one of the main features was his connection with the Hakluyt Society, of which he was for long President. As a writer his industry, his facility, and his versatility were alike remarkable. The two latter qualities were indeed so pronounced as to be in a sense defects which impaired the quality of some of his work. He was the author of perhaps half a hundred volumes and tracts dealing not only with Geography, but with History, Biography, and other subjects.

Markham was a man whose only idea of recreation was a fresh piece of work. When he came back from Mont Estoril, in Portugal, last spring at the age of eighty-five, he brought back for the Hakluyt Society the material for fresh volumes. Under a quick and abrupt manner he concealed a warm and kind heart. To our staff he showed a sympathy which encouraged every man to do his duty, and inspired a warm personal feeling towards himself. In losing Sir Clements Markham by a most unkind if not untimely fate, we lose not only the Fellow who had probably been longest on our list, but a geographer of the widest interests and knowledge, and a colleague who had for half a century worked harder than any man living for the interests of the science he followed, and the Society to which he was heart and soul devoted. He will be missed not only among his own colleagues but by geographers all the world over. The Nestor of Geography, we may say of him that he lived through two generations of men and ruled among the third.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

Dr. J. Scott Keltie, late Secretary of the Society.

By the death of Sir Clements Markham on 30 January 1916 the Society has lost a Fellow of over sixty years' standing, and one who, for the greater part of the last half-century, had been one of its most eminent and devoted officers. He was everywhere recognized as the leading representative of British Geography. His Fellowship goes back to a period when several of the more distinguished founders of the Society were still alive and active. When he joined the Society in 1853, the Earl of Ellesmere was President, and he was associated during his Fellowship and his long-continued honorary secretaryship with such men as Sir Roderick Murchison, Admiral Beechey, Earl de Grey, Lord Ashburton, Sir Henry Rawlinson, Sir Bartle Frere, Sir Rutherford Alcock, Lord Dufferin, Lord Northbrook, Lord Aberdare, and Sir Richard Strachey. He long survived all those with whom he was so intimately associated. To his many later friends all over the world his death will be regarded as a personal loss.

Clements Robert Markham was born at Stillingfleet, in Yorkshire, on 20 July 1830, the year in which the Society was founded. He was the son of the Rev. D. F. Markham, vicar of Stillingfleet and Canon of Windsor, and of Catherine, daughter of Sir William Mordaunt Milner, Bart., of Nunappleton. The great-grandfather of Sir Clements was Archbishop of York, and on both his father's and his mother's side he was connected with some of the oldest families in England; he could trace his ancestry back to a very remote period. One of his favourite hobbies was genealogy and heraldry, and with his wonderful memory he could tell at once of the relationships of almost every one of our historic families.

Sir Clements was educated at Cheam and at Westminster School. To the latter he remained strongly attached to the end of his life, in late years being one of its governors, and a trustee of Dr. Busby's charities. The Markhams had been more or less of a naval family for generations, and young Markham entered the service in 1844 at the age of fourteen, and retired in 1852. During the period of his service as naval officer he had some exciting experiences in hunting Riff pirates in the Mediterranean. Comparatively short as his period of service in the Navy really was, it made a deep and lasting impression upon him; throughout his life he was ever ready to help and befriend young naval officers. He was so convinced of the utility of naval discipline that for the Polar expeditions in which he was deeply interested he always endeavoured to procure the services of naval officers and men. Before he retired from the Navy he had his first experience of exploring work as a member of the Franklin Search Expedition of 1850-51 under Captain Austin. He was then a midshipman, and sailed in the *Assistance*, under the command

of Captain Ommanney, with Leopold McClintock, Sherard Osborn, and Vesey Hamilton as fellow-officers. He was the last survivor of all the members of the expedition, officers and men. A few months after his return from the Arctic young Markham, then only twenty-two years of age, published the story of his experiences under the title of 'Franklin's Footsteps.'

In the year in which Markham retired from the navy, 1852, he visited Peru, mainly to inquire into the remains of the Inca period. He spent two years exploring the country and investigating its remains, the result being a volume entitled 'Cuzco and Lima,' published in 1856, which threw considerable light upon a perplexing problem. Sir Clements maintained a keen interest in Peru, and indeed, in South American exploration and ethnology, up to the end of his life, and as recently as 1910 published a volume on 'The Incas of Peru.' The knowledge of Peru thus acquired by Markham was, a few years later, utilized in what has proved a priceless service to humanity. In 1859 he was entrusted by the Secretary of State for India with the superintendence of the necessary arrangements for the collection of the cinchona plant, and for its introduction into India. With this object he again visited South America in 1860, accompanied by a collector and three other companions, and with complete success arranged for the transmission of the invaluable plant to India. In carrying out this great undertaking Sir Clements and his companions had many adventures and ran some risks while penetrating into remote parts of Peru, which had probably never been visited by Europeans before. Thus the cinchona plant was introduced into India and cultivated there so successfully that the price was reduced from something like 20s. to a few pence an ounce. Sir Clements himself went to India to superintend the introduction of the plant, and the result was another interesting volume, covering a much wider field than the collection of cinchona, 'Travels in Peru and India, 1862.' Three years later he again visited India as well as Ceylon, to report on the Pearl Fisheries. Besides the works already mentioned, his continued interest in Peru was manifested by various publications in later years, such as his 'Quichua Grammar and Dictionary,' 1865 and 1908, 'Ollanta, a Quichua Drama,' 1871, 'Peruvian Bark,' 1880, and 'The War between Chili and Peru,' 1879-81. Moreover, it was through his initiation that the Society in 1910 published the first sheet, embracing part of Peru and Bolivia, of a new map of South America which, it is hoped, may be completed when more prosperous times arrive.

The next important enterprise of Sir Clements was the part which he took in the Abyssinian War of 1868 as the geographer to the expedition. He was present at the storm and capture of Magdala, and it was he who discovered the body of King Theodore. On his return he published a history of the Abyssinian Expedition. It was on this expedition that he first met the late Sir Henry Stanley, who accompanied it as correspondent

for the *New York Herald*. Sir Clements had some interesting reminiscences of Stanley, who was then quite unknown.

At the date of the Abyssinian expedition Sir Clements had been Honorary Secretary of the Society for five years, having been elected in 1863. This position he held for a quarter of a century, retiring from it in 1888, when the Society awarded him the Founder's Medal. It was a stirring period in the history of the Society and in the history of Geography. A year after Markham became Honorary Secretary, the position of Assistant Secretary became vacant, and no doubt it was greatly through his influence that the services of the distinguished South American explorer and naturalist, Mr. H. W. Bates, were secured for that post. They became fast friends, and the two worked together devotedly for the interests of the Society, even after Markham's retirement from the post of Honorary Secretary in 1888. It was during the period of his secretaryship that the exploration of the great blank in the centre of Africa was being carried out with ever-increasing vigour. Markham thus became intimately associated with the work of Livingstone, Burton, Speke, Grant, Cameron, Baker, Thomson, Stanley, Selous, and others whose names are written large across the heart of Africa. No one was more ready than Sir Clements to encourage these pioneer explorers and to help them in every way as far as the resources of the Society would permit. His hospitality was catholic and generous, and he probably did more than any other man, since the time of Murchison, to raise the Society's reputation to the high standard which it has attained.

As Secretary, he was naturally keenly interested not only in the exploration of Africa, but in the work which was being carried out in other continents, especially Asia. In the exploration of Asia he was intimately associated with the work of such well-known men as Palgrave, Rawlinson, Yule, Trotter, Carey, Strachey, Wallace, Montgomerie, Blakiston, Hayward, Ney Elias, Gill, Hooker, Baber, Littledale, Holdich, Rockhill, and his distinguished successor Lord Curzon. A glance through the volumes of the old *Journal* of the Society, the *Proceedings* and the *Journal* as it now exists will show the vast amount of work of a high character which was carried out under the auspices or by the encouragement of the Society during the forty-two years of Markham's tenure of office either as Secretary, as Vice-President, or as President. It will there be seen that it was not only exploration, in the ordinary sense, with which the Society had to deal, but that even in those earlier years the scientific aspect of geography was already recognized. It was while Markham was still an Honorary Secretary of the Society that this aspect of the subject received more distinct encouragement by the institution of series of lectures by distinguished scientific men on their special subjects. This feature may be regarded as the forerunner of the Research Department of the Society's work, which Sir Clements established soon after he became President in 1893, and which has now been at work for many years, with satisfactory results.

Sir Clements Markham had also much to do with the attempt to raise the position of Geography in English education by offering medals in an examination in the subject open to pupils from the principal public schools. When after a trial of twenty years this scheme proved not so successful as might have been hoped it was decided, in 1884, to abandon it and institute an inquiry into the position of geography in universities and schools on the Continent and in America, and to send abroad a delegate for this purpose. The report he brought back was carefully considered by the Council, and it was determined to appeal to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge to found Schools of Geography, and the appeal was supported by an offer of pecuniary grants-in-aid. This appeal was successful, and in all the subsequent negotiations and co-operation involved in founding and fostering the new schools Markham took an active part, serving at various times on the Geographical Boards of both Universities. The movement thus initiated may now be regarded as having attained its purpose in raising geographical teaching and research to a level approaching that which it has so long achieved in Continental countries.

In other ways Sir Clements did much to add to the efficiency of the Society. He was, for example, keenly interested in the improvement of our library and map collections, both of which during his time received immense additions, both in new publications and works of historical value. He was also active in promoting the enlargement of the collection of photographs begun during his term of office. Another department, the growth and success of which was largely due to Markham's zeal, is that for instruction in surveying, which before the war broke out had grown to almost embarrassing dimensions. During the many years that this department has been at work a very large number of men, military officers, travellers and colonial officials, have been sent out with a practical knowledge of surveying, many of them having taken the Society's Diploma testifying to the holders' qualifications as trained surveyors.

The foregoing statement may afford some idea of the very varied and important work carried out by the Society during Markham's tenure of office, and largely through his intelligent and never-tiring exertions. The result of all this energy was the obvious necessity of a change in the Society's house. Not only did our various collections increase to such an extent that No. 1, Savile Row became quite inadequate in accommodation, but the work of the Society also grew to such an extent that by the time Markham retired from office the Staff had had to be trebled. It may be noted here in passing that it was during his secretaryship that the Society had made its first move from Whitehall to Savile Row.

As might have been expected Sir Clements' intense interest in polar exploration led to important practical results during his long period of office as Secretary and President. After the Franklin Search Expeditions the British Government ceased for many years to interest itself in polar exploration. But Sir Clements could not allow the matter to rest

there, and it was partly through his persistent advocacy that the last official Arctic Expedition (1874-6) was equipped and placed under the command of Sir George Nares, with Commander (now Admiral Sir) A. H. Markham as Commander of the *Alert*. Sir Clements accompanied the expedition as far as Godhavn, while Commander Markham succeeded under almost insuperable difficulties in reaching $83^{\circ} 20' 26''$ N., the record latitude reached up to that time. For many years Sir Clements with untiring persistency advocated the renewal of Antarctic exploration on a large scale, and he must be accorded the credit of having been the initiator of the vast amount of Antarctic work that has been accomplished during the last fifteen years. His zeal was amply rewarded when he succeeded in obtaining from Col. Longstaff and other private subscribers, from the Society and from the Government, a sum approaching £100,000 for the equipment of an expedition under Capt. R. F. Scott, which in 1901-4 in the *Discovery* attained memorable results and set an example which has been followed by great achievements. The death of Capt. Scott, whom Sir Clements loved as a son, on his journey back from the South Pole in 1911, was probably the most grievous blow that Markham had ever experienced.

Throughout his long official connection with the Society, Sir Clements kept himself in close touch not only with what may be called its external activities but with its internal organization, in which he took a proud interest. By his friendly, genial and considerate relations with every member of the staff he secured their loyal devotion not only to himself but to the Society, so that the hardest work in carrying out the Society's objects and in maintaining its reputation became a pleasure and not a task. He took a special interest in the younger members of the staff, who were ever eager to gain his approval. Indeed, one of his striking characteristics was his love for the company of young men—Westminster boys, naval cadets, aspiring explorers, and others preparing for their career in life. There are hundreds of men all over the world, not only old boys from the *Worcester* and other training ships, but men in many walks of life, who will admit that their intercourse with Markham was an inspiration and an incentive to do their best and bravest. In such company he was himself again a young man, and nothing pleased him more than to have naval cadets or Westminster boys to lunch and to accompany them after to the theatre or the Zoological Gardens. Hence the widespread feeling of personal loss in his death.

Space forbids our going into further details with regard to Sir Clements' long connection with the Society, and all he did to promote its interests and the objects for which it was founded. He lived to see its membership grow from something well under 1000 to 5300 and its income quintupled. He left it admittedly the greatest Geographical Society in the world, publishing the leading geographical periodical, and in a position to render important services in the gigantic struggle which is being waged for the Empire's existence.

Sir Clements' interest and activities were not confined to the Society or to Geography. He was Secretary to the Hakluyt Society from 1858 to 1887 and President from 1889 to 1909. Every one cognisant of the career of that Society is aware that its success in publishing such a magnificent series of ancient voyages and travels has been largely due to the unceasing devotion and the sympathetic and inspiring influence of Sir Clements. He himself was responsible for something like thirty volumes of the Society's publications, and to the very end he had others in preparation. Besides this he edited two volumes for the Navy Record Society and one for the Roxburghe Club.

In July 1854 Markham was appointed to what was known as the Board of Control of the East India Company and served in the Secret Department through the time of the Persian War and Indian Mutiny. From 1858 to 1862 he served in the Revenue Department of the India Office, and it was during that period that he was deputed to proceed to South America for the purpose of collecting cinchona plants and seeds and introducing them into India. From July 1861 to August 1863 he acted as Private Secretary to Mr. F. G. Baring (Under-Secretary of State for India) who eventually became Lord Northbrook and Viceroy of India. It was about this time that on the suggestion of Colonel H. L. Thuillier, the Surveyor-General of India, Markham was entrusted with the charge of the geographical business of the India Office. One of his first labours was the preparation of the original "Memoir on the Indian Survey," a work which had a good circulation and which was translated into the French and Dutch languages. He also strongly advised the preparation of similar Memoirs for all the Departments of the India Office, but though the idea found several supporters in the office the proposal failed to obtain general favour. The resumption of Marine Surveys in India, which had been abandoned after the abolition of the Indian Navy, was strenuously advocated by Markham and eventually sanctioned; and the creation of a Central Meteorological Department for the purpose of collating and utilizing the scattered observations was another matter which he continued and with eventual success to press upon the attention of the Government. Another task entrusted to Markham was the preparation of the Moral and Material Progress Statement required by Act of Parliament to be laid before Parliament. Mr. (later Sir Mountstuart) Grant Duff, who had obtained the introduction of the section in the Indian Councils Act, providing for the report in question, and who was Under-Secretary of State in 1872, was desirous that a genuine interest should be aroused in Indian affairs by the annual presentation of a thoroughly readable volume. The reports for 1871-2 and 1872-3 were great improvements on their predecessors and gained general approbation, Count von Moltke amongst others having specially expressed his admiration of the book. The discovery of the journals and other papers of George Bogle who was sent on a mission to

Tibet by Warren Hastings, and of Manning, the only Englishman who up to that time had ever visited Lhasa, was due to Markham's research, and the Secretary of State sanctioned their being printed and published at the Government expense. An admirable introduction was prefixed giving an account of Tibetan geography and history and the journals were annotated throughout by Markham.

Sir Clements' interests and activities were as we have shown widespread and altogether he was author and editor of half a hundred works, besides numerous papers and memoirs in the publications of the Geographical and other Societies. In addition to the works already mentioned, reference may be made to his 'Threshold of the Unknown Region,' probably the best summary of Arctic exploration. Among volumes with a geographical interest were his Lives of Columbus, John Davis, Major Rennell, and Sir Leopold McClintock. Other biographies were 'Life of the Great Lord Fairfax,' 'The Fighting Veres,' 'The Paladins of Edwin the Great,' 'Richard III., His Life and Character;' in the last he tried to acquit Richard of the murder of the two princes. Then we have his 'History of Peru,' and 'History of Persia.' Sir Clements had the pen of a ready writer. The facility and rapidity with which even to the end he could turn out work was marvellous. He was too wedded to old ways to dictate or type-write, and his small, clear, angular penmanship was characteristic, the clearness remaining to the last. His almost phenomenal memory was of great assistance to him as an author. He had the history of Polar exploration, of the exploration of Tibet, and other fields, such as certain periods and genealogies, by heart, as well as the minutes of council of the Society, and the great episodes in its career, in minute detail.

Underneath a somewhat abrupt and detached manner Sir Clements concealed strong feelings and a warm and sympathetic heart. He was the staunchest of friends and the indomitable champion of any cause he made his own. Naturally conservative, he was specially jealous of any departure from the traditions of the Society, but as facts show he did not hesitate to welcome new departures which contributed to the promotion of its objects. As might have been expected he had his prejudices and dislikes, but even these, strong as they may have been sometimes, were frequently overcome by an appeal to his better judgment and his heart. Without ostentation he helped many a needy man. He had led the fullest of lives, and had it not been for the misfortune which ended in death, there was every hope that he would have had still several years of life and activity before him.

Sir Clements was the recipient of many honours. He was made K.C.B. in 1896, and orders were conferred upon him by the Sovereigns of Portugal, Brazil, Sweden, and Norway. He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1873, and was Honorary Member of various Academies, and of all the Geographical Societies of Europe and the Americas. Cambridge conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Science.

IN 1857 Sir Clements was married to Minna, daughter of the Rev. James Hamilton Chichester, Rector of Arlington, North Devon, who, with a daughter, Mary Louisa, born in 1859, survives him.

Sir Clements was buried in Kensal Green Cemetery, on February 3, and at the service at St. Michael's, Chester Square, which preceded his funeral, Earl Curzon of Kedleston represented the Society in the unavoidable absence of the President. Other members of Council present were Admiral Sir Lewis Beaumont, Col. Sir Th. H. Holdich, Sir Everard im Thurn, Mr. Reginald Smith, Mr. Somers Cocks, Dr. H. N. Dickson; with Dr. J. Scott Keltie, Mr. E. Heawood and Mr. E. A. Reeves representing the staff. There were also present at the service Lady Markham, Admiral Sir Albert Markham and other relatives, the Colombian and Peruvian Ministers, Dr. Gow, head master of Westminster School, Admiral Sir Arthur Moore, Admiral the Hon. Sir E. R. Fremantle, Sir George Dashwood, Admiral Sir James Bruce, Admiral Sir N. Bowden Smith, Dr. Arthur Schuster (Royal Society), Dr. Smith Woodward (Geological Society), Mr. Albert Gray and Mr. J. A. J. De Villiers (Hakluyt Society), Dr. J. H. Guillemard (Cambridge University), Capt. D. Wilson Barker (Worcester Training Ship), Lady Mary Scott, Miss Scott (sister of Captain Scott), Lieut. Rupert G. England, R.N.R., Mr. Cyril Longhurst (the late Captain Scott's secretary).

The following interesting reminiscences of Sir Clements have been sent by his cousin, Admiral Sir Albert H. Markham, K.C.B. :

Clements Robert Markham, second son of the Rev. David F. Markham, Canon of Windsor, and Catherine, daughter of Sir William Milner, Bart., was born on 20 July 1830 at Stillingfleet, Yorkshire, of which parish his father at that time was Vicar. He was baptized in the drawing-room at Becca Hall, by his great uncle, Archdeacon Robert Markham. From 1839 to 1842 he was at Cheam School, from which he was transferred to Westminster, where he remained until he entered the Navy on 28 June 1844. His first service was as a Naval Cadet and Midshipman on board H.M.S. *Collingwood*, a two-decker, mounting 80 guns, flagship of Rear-Admiral Sir George Seymour, on the Pacific Station. His Captain was Robert Smart, a good officer and a strict disciplinarian. After serving for four years on this station, during which period he visited Chile, Peru, Mexico, California, Rio de Janeiro, the Sandwich, Society, and Falkland Islands, he returned in the *Collingwood* to England. His sojourn in Peru only whetted his appetite for further intimate knowledge of that interesting country and its ancient history, which subsequently was somewhat appeased by a more full and general exploration of the country.

After serving in various ships on the Mediterranean Station, Clements Markham sent in his name as a volunteer for service in the expedition that was fitting out with the object of searching for Sir John Franklin in the Arctic Regions. His services were accepted by the Admiralty, and he was

appointed as midshipman to H.M.S. *Assistance*, commanded by Captain Ommanney, in April 1850. In addition to the *Assistance* were the *Resolute*, Captain Horatio Austin, in command of the expedition, the *Pioneer*, Lieut. Sherard Osborn, and the *Intrepid*, Lieut. Cator. The two last named were steam tenders to the *Resolute* and *Assistance*, which were sailing vessels. The expedition sailed on 3 May 1850, and after a somewhat exciting and perilous voyage through Melville Bay, where the ships were detained by the ice for six weeks, eventually reached Griffith Island in Lancaster South, where they spent the ensuing winter. Markham was the life and soul of the officers' mess, and took a leading part in the organization of theatricals and other amusements, such as lectures, penny readings, etc., to help to relieve the tedium inseparable from a long and dark winter. It was while serving in this expedition that the subject of our sketch began his life-long friendship with Sherard Osborn and McClintock which culminated later on so beneficially to the promotion of North Polar exploration. During the spring of 1851 Markham carried out some important journeys in part of the general scheme that was instituted for the discovery of indications of the Franklin expedition. These led, however, to no definite conclusion regarding the object of the enterprise—namely, the safety, or whereabouts, of the missing men; but much useful geographical work was accomplished. On one of these journeys Markham was away for nearly six weeks, and although many hardships and privations had to be endured, such as are incidental to sledge travelling in the polar regions, he kept his men in good health, and brought them back in safety to the ship. The expedition returned to England in October 1851, when he was awarded the Arctic Medal.

This was his last service in the navy, for after passing his examinations for a lieutenant on board H.M.S. *Excellent*, he retired from the service. He was then free to carry out a long-contemplated plan of visiting Peru, in the ancient history of which country he was much interested; but before doing so he published his charming little work entitled 'Franklin's Footsteps,' being an account of the expedition in which he had taken part. This book was the forerunner of the numerous works subsequently written and published of which he was the author. His travels in Peru, and especially his visit to the ancient city of Cuzco, the splendid capital of the Incas, were all graphically recounted in his work 'Cuzco and Lima' published in 1856. He himself states that his visit to Peru was undertaken "solely with a view to the examination of its antiquities and the enjoyment of its magnificent scenery." His return from Peru was hastened by the news of the death of his father. On his return he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, thus commencing a long and intimate connection with that Society terminating only with his death.

On 23 April 1857 Clements Markham was married to Minna, daughter of the Rev. James Hamilton Chichester, Rector of Arlington, North Devon,

who has been his life-long friend and companion, sharing his joys, partaking of his troubles, always by his side, assisting him in his literary and other labours—a sweet and devoted friend. There is one daughter who survives him, Mary Louisa, born on 4 October 1859.

Always a busy man, although his mind was invariably bent on scientific subjects, more especially in connection with geographical research, he obtained employment from 1854 to 1858, in what was called in those days the Board of Control of the East India Company, and from 1858 to 1877 he was employed in the India Office. He acted as Private Secretary to Lord Northbrook (who at that time was Secretary of State for India) from August 1861 to May 1863. He was also employed as Assistant Secretary in charge of all the work connected with the surveys and geography in India from 1867 to 1877, when he retired on a pension.

Prior to this, in 1859, while serving at the Board of Control, Clements Markham, in view of his undoubted qualifications for the work, was specially entrusted by the Government with the enterprise of collecting plants and seeds of quinine-yielding cinchona trees, and the cultivation of Peruvian bark generally, and transporting them to our Eastern possessions, where, as is well known, that inestimable febrifuge is regarded as almost a necessary of life. The enterprise was a hazardous one for those engaged in the performance of this service, for it necessitated the exploration of almost impenetrable virgin forests in Peru and Bolivia which had hitherto never been described or even visited by English travellers; it was necessary, as much as possible, to conceal from the inhabitants, for reasons that are obvious, the transportation of these seeds and plants to another country, and great hardships and privations had to be endured while travelling through and over the roughest country imaginable. The expedition, however, was attended with complete success in spite of difficulties of no ordinary character. The plants and seeds were obtained, their removal from Peru was satisfactorily accomplished, and their transference to the Neilgherry Hills in India was successfully achieved, and this great success was due to the marvellous energy, the astuteness with which his dealings with the natives were carried out, and the excellent arrangements made by, and adhered to, by Clements Markham, who superintended the entire work both in South America and in India. Before the end of the century, that is, about thirty years after they were planted, millions of trees were growing in flourishing plantations in India; the febrifuge was manufactured locally, and was brought within reach of the poorest people. For this great national service the Government awarded him a grant of £3000. During his travels in the two continents whilst engaged in carrying out this important service, he was accompanied by his faithful loving wife who shared all his hardships and rejoiced with him in the great success attending the enterprise.

On the outbreak of the Abyssinian War in 1867, Clements Markham was appointed by the Government as geographer to the expedition, and

accompanied Sir Robert Napier throughout the entire campaign, and was present at the assault and capture of Magdala. For his services on this occasion he was created a Companion of the Bath, and was awarded the Abyssinian war medal.

After his return from the Arctic regions in 1851, Clements Markham maintained the great interest in everything pertaining to Polar research which he had imbibed whilst employed in the search for Sir John Franklin. He became a great advocate for the desirability of a renewal of exploration in the Arctic Regions, which, after the discovery by Sir Leopold McClintock of the fate of Franklin, had been allowed to remain dormant. In collaboration with his great friend Admiral Sherard Osborn and others he was, after much persistency on his part, instrumental in obtaining the sanction of the Government for the despatch of two ships, the *Alert* and *Discovery*, under the command of Captain Nares, in 1875. It is needless to say that he took the greatest interest in the equipment of these vessels, and actually accompanied them when they sailed as far as Godhavn, in Greenland; and no one gave a warmer or more cordial reception to the officers and men of those vessels on their return home the following year, than he did.

In 1890, after a long term of service as its Honorary Secretary, he was elected President of the Hakluyt Society, and it may very safely be said that no one has done more in its interest than Sir Clements Markham. He has edited no less than thirty volumes for the Society, out of which number he has translated quite half.

In August 1895, when President of the Royal Geographical Society, he was called upon to act as President of the International Geographical Congress, which met in London, a duty he carried out with great dignity and popularity. Honours were showered on him. He was presented by the French Government with a beautiful blue Sèvres tazza. He received the Grand Prix of the Paris Exhibition of 1867. He was made Comendador of the Portuguese Order of Christ in 1874, Chevalier of the Order of the Rose of Brazil—member of the Imperial Academy of Germany; and of the Royal Society of Göttingen. The King of Sweden conferred upon him the insignia of a Commander (1st class) of the Order of the Pole Star. In 1896 he was created a knight Commander of the Bath and was knighted and invested by Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle. In 1907 the King of Norway appointed him a Commander of the Order of St. Olaf.

It may very truly be said that Clements Markham was the father of modern Antarctic research. It was he who originated and caused to be despatched the late Captain Scott's first Antarctic Expedition, and it was due to his insistency, and his urgent and persistent entreaties, that the Government was induced, somewhat reluctantly, to send out the relief ship after two years had elapsed without any information being received regarding the safety, or otherwise, of the expedition. He never lost

interest in Polar exploration, no matter in which hemisphere the work was being carried out.

His was a most lovable nature, and he was always ready to hold out the hand of friendship, accompanied by kindly words of advice and encouragement to those young officers of the Royal Navy, and also our mercantile marine (and they were many) who went to him for advice and assistance. No one appealed to him in vain—he was at all times ready to befriend the friendless. The world is all the poorer by his death, and those who knew him will always mourn their loss.

He was especially attracted to young naval officers and children, and was never so happy as when surrounded by his young friends, entering into their fun and amusements, or perhaps relating to them stories connected with his travels and adventures. His memory was wonderful, and remained unimpaired to the day of his death. Not only did he remember important historical facts and dates, but even the slightest trivialities that had come to his knowledge half a century before. He was a prolific and versatile writer, and has published, in addition to those books he edited for the Hakluyt Society, over half a hundred volumes on various subjects, principally historical, biographical, and geographical, besides contributing numerous articles to the *Geographical Journal*. He delivered lectures before the Society of Arts, and contributed articles for the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, of which he was a valued and esteemed Member of Council. He also wrote several articles for the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' and contributed all those chapters dealing with voyages of discovery in the 'History of the Royal Navy,' edited by Laird Clowes. In 1912 he was elected President of the International Congress of Americanists. The following year his old Westminster colleagues and friends presented him with a full-length portrait of himself painted by George Henry, A.R.A. A brief notice such as this cannot be more appropriately closed than by adding a copy of the telegram sent by His Majesty to Lady Markham, on being informed of the death of her distinguished husband :

"The King regrets to hear of the sorrow which has befallen you, and desires me to convey to you the expression of his sympathy. His Majesty has known Sir Clements for many years, and realizes how much the country is indebted to his long years of study and research."

Letters and telegrams of condolence and sympathy have been received from the Italian Geographical Society, the Norwegian Geographical Society, the Danish Geographical Society, Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, General Sir Reginald Wingate and other Fellows in the Sudan, Captain Royds, Dr. Sven Hedin, Dr. Otto Nordenskjöld, Señor Joaquim Bensaude, etc., etc.