

to Edward Burnett Tylor in honour of his 75th Birthday, October 2, 1907": "The extent of his reading, his critical acumen, his accuracy, his power of exposition, his open mind, and his scientific caution make this book no passing essay, but a possession for ever."

Ten years later Tylor published a most excellent little book, "Anthropology: an Introduction to the Study of Man and Civilization" (1881), which still remains a valuable and suggestive guide for those who desire to know the significance of what Max Müller termed "Mr. Tylor's science."

On looking through the compendious bibliography of Tylor from 1861 to 1907 compiled by Miss Freire-Marreco for the above-mentioned Essays, it is obvious that, apart from his four books, his activity largely manifested itself in lectures, reviews, and addresses. His papers, even when descriptive, were always marked by a breadth of view and an endeavour to drive home the lessons to be garnered from the facts. The most important of these papers is that "On a Method of Investigating the Development of Institutions, applied to Laws of Marriage and Descent," in which it was his "aim to show that the development of institutions may be investigated on a basis of tabulation and classification." In order to indicate the wide range of his studies, the following are some of the subjects of his papers: Games, Australian marriage laws, the origin of the plough and wheel-carriage, the Asiatic relations of Polynesian culture, the winged figures of the Assyrian and other ancient monuments, charms and amulets, the Tasmanians as representatives of Palæolithic man, and totemism. Indeed, there were few aspects of anthropology which he had not investigated, and he enriched all those with which he dealt.

Although Tylor illustrated his theses with a wealth of references, he never permitted himself to be swamped by them. He will always be regarded as the first and foremost exponent of the comparative method in this country, and though, as was natural for a contemporary of Darwin and Huxley, he was imbued with the principle of development, yet he was fully alive to the borrowing of culture and to cultural drifts; thus, ever since 1874 he repeatedly drew attention to the direct cultural influence of Asia on the higher civilisations of the New World and the spread thence of certain elements of that culture among more barbarous tribes. Tylor was always interested in method, and it was mainly by his efforts in this direction that ethnology can now claim to be a science.

A. C. HADDON.

CAPT. F. C. SELOUS.

THE late Capt. Frederick Courteney Selous, whose death in action against the remaining German forces in East Africa has just come as a painful shock to his many friends in the two hemispheres, was born in London on the last day of 1851. His surname—pronounced in the French manner—indicated his French ancestry on the

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father's side, but his main composition was English and Scottish, and his appearance almost Scandinavian in his blondness and his Nordic violet eyes—perhaps the most striking feature in a very charming face. As a young man he was exceedingly good-looking, and always reminded me—after I had been to South Africa—of a not uncommon type of Boer (which, indeed, is a very common type in Holland), similarly blond and with the like violet-grey eyes. I first met him in the early 'eighties at the house of his near relatives, the Garrods, of Harley Street. The great comparative anatomist, Alfred Garrod, was his cousin, and similarly of Huguenot-French origin.

Selous was educated first at Rugby and afterwards in French Switzerland and in Rhenish Germany, so that he entered on his African explorations with a well-filled mind and a trained power of observation. I rather fancy his decided bent for natural history and the pursuit of big game must have arisen from his Garrod connections and the consequent deep interest he took in the Zoological Gardens (Prof. Garrod was prosector there).

He was an African pioneer of the very best type. Always a total abstainer, there was never anything rowdy about him, yet he won the respect and frank liking of the roughest types of men of all races. He was greatly esteemed in the United States. Only three days before the announcement of his death I received a note from the secretary of the New York Zoological Society, recounting a talk with Prof. H. F. Osborn and Colonel Roosevelt about the war, winding up with the question: "Have you any news about Selous? We are all so anxious about him."

Selous was not a systematist in zoology, but he was a close and accurate observer of the life-habits of birds and beasts, and in his branch of natural history he contributed much valuable lore to science. If all his contributions were removed from the galleries and drawers of the British Museum, our examples of the African fauna—especially its spectacular fauna—would indeed be poor. Moreover, he added very greatly to our knowledge of birds' eggs, especially the eggs and nests of Palæarctic (and Mediterranean) birds.

His loss will be a source of grief to many, not only here and in the United States, but also in Africa. I should think he was one of those few notable and active men who never made an enemy, not even when he took a strong, almost vehement, line in the matter of the protection of birds from the ravages of the plumage trade, on which subject he made terse and most effective speeches.

H. H. JOHNSTON.

NOTES.

THE question of closer co-ordination between scientific research and practical design in aeronautics has been mentioned more than once in these columns, and it now appears that such co-ordination will be one of the good results following the reorganisation of the Air Board. The inclusion of two representatives of the Ministry of Munitions and of a technical director