

Obituary Notices

Edouard Naville, Hon. F.S.A.:—The death of Professor Edouard Naville at Geneva at the age of 82 has removed one of the last of the older generation of Egyptologists, who did such splendid work in their time for the advancement of Egyptological science. Naville belonged to the generation that followed that of Lepsius, Birch, and Brugsch, the three giants who took up the work of the original discoverer Champollion and set Egyptology on its feet. Naville's chief contemporary was Maspero, who predeceased him during the Great War. His chief teacher was Lepsius, whose memory he always regarded with veneration, and whose literary executor he was.

In religion Naville, being a Swiss Protestant, was strictly Evangelical; in politics he was a stern and unbending Tory. In English politics his sympathies were consistently with the Tory-Imperialist point of view, and at the time of the Boer War he maintained the English Governmental view in Switzerland so strongly as to incur considerable odium not so much perhaps in Switzerland (where his views, published generally in the *Journal de Genève*, were always listened to with great respect) as in France and Germany, and of course Holland and Belgium. He defended our action with his pen in a number of pamphlets that he had translated into English, German, and Dutch, if not into other languages; and there is no doubt that he did our cause very material service thereby.

His two chief services to Egyptology were first his great comparative edition of the text of the Book of the Dead, his publication of the *Mythe d'Horus* at Edfu, etc., and secondly his archaeological work in Egypt for the Egypt Exploration Fund. By the latter he is best known in England. When the Fund was first started under the inspiration chiefly of the late Miss Amelia Edwards, he and Mr. (now Professor Sir) Flinders Petrie were the two protagonists in the work of excavation begun in the early eighties by that society. His excavations of Pithom and of Bubastis and of Deir el-bahri were his most important work, and considerable trophies of them were brought back to England and added to the British Museum among others. Naville was always proud to point out in our galleries this statue or pillar or that colossal head that his work had added to our national collections. He liked big things, big trophies; *de minimis non curavit*. The modern insistence on the importance of little things, of small objects of anthropological or artistic value, was incomprehensible to him; and when in later years his assistants insisted on recording a scarab or a few beads with as much care as a colossal statue he would smile and shrug his shoulders.

His ideas of excavation were modelled on those of Mariette. It was his business to *déblayer* some great monument with the funds at his disposal, and that was what he wanted to do. And that type of work, which after all *is* one of the major tasks of archaeology in every clime

where monuments of great ancient civilizations exist, he carried out admirably; but he sometimes stopped short of final completeness. The Great Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-bahri remains as his chief monument in Egypt and as the chief monument of the Egypt Exploration Society's work there, when all is said and done.

At Deir el-bahri he had for one season the assistance of Mr. D. G. Hogarth, and in the publication of the work was able to avail himself of the architectural knowledge of the late Mr. Somers Clarke and the artistic capacity of Mr. Howard Carter. The publication of the Temple by Naville, issued by the Fund, was of a specially sumptuous description. This work went on from 1892 to 1898. Five years later Naville went out again for the Fund to explore the untouched southern half of the *cirque* of Deir el-bahri, this time with the present writer as his assistant. The funerary temple of King Neb-hapet-Ra Mentuhotep, of the XIth Dynasty, was discovered. This work lasted till 1907.

Naville returned later to excavate for the Fund a building that he had long wanted to dig out: the so-called 'Osireion' (really a subterranean funerary temple of Seti I, as the recent work of Mr. Henry Frankfort has shown), originally discovered by Sir Flinders Petrie and Miss M. A. Murray. The Great War put a stop to operations, and when they were at last resumed in 1925 by Mr. Frankfort for the Society, Naville was too far advanced in years to proceed to the scene of operations, but he followed the course of the work with the greatest interest, and it is regrettable that death has prevented him from taking part in its final publication.

His earlier work at Pithom and on the Route of the Exodus is well known to Biblical scholars. For many years his identifications of the sites mentioned in the Book of Exodus and his dating of that event in the reign of Menepthah (*c.* 1230 B. C.) were generally accepted in conjunction with Professor Petrie's views on the subject, but now the most recent work of scholars of such widely differing views as Gardner and Gressmann has put the whole matter again into the melting-pot: we can no longer say we know what route the Israelites took out of Egypt nor when they went: recent opinion, however, has returned to the old view of Josephus, that the Exodus is a reality identical with the Expulsion of the Hyksos. Naville's views as to the genesis of the text of the Old Testament in hypothetical cuneiform documents never found general acceptance, but the value of his archaeological contribution to the elucidation of the subject must not be minimized. In their time his discoveries in 'the Archaeology of the Old Testament' were epoch-making.

Honorary degrees of several Universities, in England and elsewhere, were conferred upon Naville, who always especially prized his connexion with the University of London. He was elected an honorary Fellow of the Society in 1896, but the distinction most prized by him was his foreign membership of the Institute of France: a distinction that does not come to many.

He was an imposing figure, a man of great stature not only physically but in knowledge. He was a great Egyptologist, and gave his life whole-heartedly to the study and advancement of his science. And in

his work he had till the end of his days the devoted and assiduous help of his wife, whose hand as a copyist of inscriptions is seen in all his books.

H. R. HALL.

Charles Lethbridge Kingsford, who died after a short illness on 27th November 1926, was elected a Fellow on 7th January 1909. He was chosen one of the Council in 1912 and again in 1917, and served as Vice-President from 1920 to 1923. At the time of his death he had been a member of the Library Committee since 1920 and of the Executive Committee since 1923. He was a regular attendant at the meetings, at which he made many communications, all printed in *Archaeologia*.

He was born at Ludlow on Christmas Day, 1862, the third son of the Rev. Sampson Kingsford, and was educated at Rossall School, which afterwards made him one of its Governing Body. He was elected in 1881 a Scholar of St. John's College, Oxford, and obtained a second class in Classical Moderations in 1883, a first in Literae Humaniores in 1885, and a second in Modern History in 1886, and won the Arnold Prize in 1888 with an essay on 'The Reformation in France'. He entered the Education Office as an Examiner in 1890, and was an Assistant-Secretary there from 1905 to 1912, when he resigned. During the War he was Private Secretary to Sir A. Boscawen at the Ministry of Pensions. In 1923-4 he was Ford Lecturer in English History at Oxford, and was elected in 1924 a Fellow of the British Academy.

Mr. Kingsford was a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and had served as a member of its Council and as a Vice-President. He was also Vice-President of the London Topographical Society, and Chairman of the Council of the Canterbury and York Society. His unflinching good-temper and serene practical wisdom were, in this field, even more valuable than his learning.

Although his historical reputation rests mainly on his singular knowledge of the fifteenth century, he rendered notable services to the history of other periods, as is shown by the list of his books. He joined the staff of the *Dictionary of National Biography* in 1889, and his contributions began to appear in the volume published in that year. They were mostly lives of minor characters of the twelfth century, but those of Henry V and of Sir John Stonor are indications of his future interests. His first book, an excellent edition of *The Song of Lewes*, appeared in 1890. In 1894 came *The Crusades*, written in collaboration with T. A. Archer. *Henry V* (Heroes of the Nations), published in 1901, was followed in 1905 by *Chronicles of London*, an edition of three chronicles covering the years 1189-1516. London topography, his favourite subject at our meetings and one on which he was an acknowledged master, came next, his most important work, the edition of Stow's *Survey of London*, being published by him in 1908. An edition of *Two London Chronicles from the Collection of John Stow* appeared (in the Camden Miscellany) in 1910, and in 1911 that of the *First English Life of Henry V*.

English Historical Literature in the Fifteenth Century, which definitely marked him as an authority, was published in 1913. *The Grey Friars of London* was issued by the British Society of Franciscan