

OBITUARY NOTICES

Dr. O. Codrington,

Late Honorary Vice-President of the Royal Asiatic Society.

The death of Dr. Oliver Codrington will be deeply regretted by all members of the Royal Asiatic Society who were familiar with his careful supervision of their Library in Albemarle Street for many years and the ever-ready help he was ready to give to all readers and inquirers.

Dr. Codrington, in addition to his ordinary work as Librarian, compiled for the Society a valuable catalogue of the Arabic, Persian, and Turkish MSS. in the Library (1892). His personal work, however, was mainly in the direction of Oriental numismatics, of which probably the most important outcome was his excellent manual of Musalman numismatics, published in our monograph series in 1904. This is an invaluable introduction to the subject, and only those numismatists who went through the toil and trouble, when far from museums and libraries, of obtaining a little elementary instruction when they first took up the subject can appreciate the value of a guide like this and also the labour involved in its composition. Dr. Codrington's earlier career was in New Zealand and Burma, but as early as 1873 he was a member of the Bombay branch of the R.A.S., and undertook to edit its Journal in 1874. To that Journal he contributed a number of valuable papers on various branches of Indian numismatics, including the coins of the Andhras, the Bahmanis, and Kachch, and in 1891 he brought out a catalogue of the Society's collection of coins.

He became a member of the R.A.S. in 1877, and on his return from India in 1886 he at once became an active member, and in 1891 he became Honorary Librarian, a post which he continued to hold till he felt obliged to retire from it in 1919. He joined the R. Numismatic Society in 1886, and

soon became librarian to that Society also. He continued his numismatic work for both societies. For the R.A.S. his most important work was the *Manual of Musalmān Numismatics*, already alluded to, but the following papers in our *Journal* may be noted:—

Notes on Musalman coins collected by Mr. G. P.

Tate in Seistan : *JRAS.* 1904, p. 681.

Do. 1905, p. 547.

Notes on coins collected in Seistan by Sir A. H. McMahon :

JRAS. 1911, 3. 779.

Coinage of Husayn Baikara : *JRAS.* 1913, p. 432.

The following papers appeared in the *Numismatic Chronicle* :—

Coins of the Beni Rusūl, etc. : *N.C.* 1894, p. 88.

A coin of Taghlak Shāh : *N.C.* 1894, p. 185.

Coinages of Cutch and Kāthiāwār : *N.C.* 1895, p. 59.

Coins of the Bahmanī Dynasty : *N.C.* 1898, p. 259.

Some rare Oriental coins (Umayyad and ‘Abbāsī) : *N.C.* 1902, p. 267.

Coins of the King of Jinns : *N.C.* 1913, p. 123.

Of the papers those on the coins of Husayn Baikara, of the Bahmanīs, and of Kachch are of great value.

Dr. Codrington's services to Numismatics were recognized by the bestowal on him of the Medal of the Royal Numismatic Society in 1911, an honour which he shared with such well-known Oriental numismatists as Edward Thomas, Sir Alexander Cunningham, Stanley Lane-Poole, and Wladimir von Tiesenhausen.

M. LONGWORTH DAMES.

The Centenary of Sir Richard Francis Burton

On March 19 we celebrated the Centenary of one of Britain's noblest sons—Sir Richard Francis Burton.

His fame as an Orientalist and anthropologist was only surpassed by his ranking with the world's greatest explorers.