

He was a man of many interests, and was a member of several learned societies besides the Royal Asiatic Society, but he was constant in his devotion to Eastern learning. He edited the *Memoirs of Bābur* for the Oxford University Press, and when death overtook him he was engaged in editing the *Memoirs of Tīmūr* for the same Press. His death is a loss not only to this Society, of which he was a member for over forty years, but to Oriental scholarship in general.

WOLSELEY HAIG.

Count Goblet d'Alviella, LL.D., Ph.D., etc.

Count Goblet d'Alviella, born in 1846, occupied a very distinguished position in the public life of Belgium. Deputy for Brussels from 1878 onwards, he became successively a member (1900) and Vice-President (1912) of the Senate; during the Great War, from 1916, he was a member of the Cabinet. In the Free University of Brussels he was first Professor of the History of Religions (1884) and subsequently Rector. He was also elected (1887) to the Belgian Academy and became its President. With this country he had, in addition to the membership of this Society, several connexions; his studies were largely inspired by the writings of Tylor and other Englishmen, and he was Vice-President of the Anglo-Belgian Society and Hon. LL.D. of the Aberdeen and Glasgow Universities. In 1891 he delivered a course of Hibbert Lectures on *The Origin and Growth of the Conception of God*. In 1876 he accompanied the then Prince of Wales upon his Indian tour, and a description of his travels in India and Sikkim appeared in 1877 under the title *L'Inde et Himalaya*.

His scientific writings, which related mainly to the History of Religions, took for the most part the form of articles contributed to the memoirs of the Belgian Academy, the *Revue de l'Histoire des Religions*, the *Revue de Belgique*, of which he was Director, and other periodicals. In 1911 these were reissued at Paris in three volumes under the title *Croyances, Rites, Superstitions*. Separate publications were

his *L'Évolution religieuse contemporaine chez les Anglais, les Américains et les Hindous* (Paris, 1884), *Les Religions et les Philosophies dans l'Asie Centrale* (3rd ed., Paris, 1900), and *La Migration des Symboles* (Paris, 1892). The last-named attracted the widest attention, and an English translation appeared in 1894 with an enthusiastic introduction by Sir George Birdwood. In *Ce que l'Inde doit à la Grèce* (Paris, 1897) he summed up judiciously the pros and cons of this much-debated theme.

The "History of Religions" is a subject still provocative, and perhaps not least in Belgium, of controversy, and a department in which it is difficult to reach firm and precise conclusions. Count Goblet d'Alviella excelled in the assembling of evidence and in graceful and judicious exposition.

F. W. THOMAS.

**Sir Ramkrishna Gopal Bhandarkar, M.A.,
Hon. Ph.D., K.C.I.E.**

Ramkrishna Gopal Bhandarkar, who died in his home in Poona on August 24, was the last survivor of a group of Sanskrit scholars which had lent distinction to the Bombay Presidency during the concluding thirty years of the nineteenth century. Beside his own countrymen, Shankar Pandit, K. T. Telang, Bhagwanlal Indraji, A. V. Kathavate, Pandit Durgaprasad and others, the group included such leading scholars as Colonel Jacob, Bühler, Kielhorn, Peterson, and Fleet, with all of whom Bhandarkar may be brought into connexion. Like Bühler, Kielhorn, and Peterson, he took a prominent part in that branch of research which consists in the discovery and record of Sanskrit MSS.; and of the numerous reports published by the Bombay Government none have a higher value than his. In common with the same triad and with Fleet he made important contributions to the study of inscriptions and of the historical and archæological material contained in them. Like Kielhorn, he was at home in the texts of the Sanskrit grammarians, and he published some