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Obituary: General Sir Charles Warren, G. C. M. G., K. C. B., F. R. S.

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in the east and west. The Secretary of the Eclipse Committee recommends sight-seers to keep their plans "flexible" until the last minute, and be guided by meteorological reports issued the evening before the eclipse. Whether they are prepared to take this risk or not, all observers will find the Eclipse Map indispensable in selecting suitable stations. The map is published at 3s.

## OBITUARY

### General Sir Charles Warren, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., F.R.S.

SIR CHARLES WARREN, whose death took place on January 21, had been a Fellow of this Society for more than fifty years, and had served on its Council. He was born in 1840, and was within a few days of his eighty-seventh birthday at the time of his death. His many services to his country as a soldier have been described in the daily Press and it will be sufficient here to mention only the main outlines of his military career. After passing through the Royal Military Academy, he entered the Royal Engineers in 1857; promotion was not very quick in those days, and he did not get his captain's step until 1869. He commanded the Diamond Fields Horse in 1878, and was in charge of the Northern Border Expedition in 1879. He commanded the Bechuanaland Expedition, as a major-general, in 1884-5. He commanded in the Straits Settlements from 1889 to 1894, and the Thames District from 1895 to 1898. He was Lieut.-General in command of the 5th Division in the South African War in 1899-1900.

He was always devoted to geographical studies and to archæology. From 1861 to 1865 he had been employed upon the large-scale survey of Gibraltar. He was appointed assistant instructor of surveying at the School of Military Engineering in 1866; he came back to the same school as chief instructor in 1880, and remained in that post for four years. But meanwhile he had been to Palestine, where he did a remarkable work for the Palestine Exploration Fund. This Society had been founded in 1865; work in Palestine was commenced in that year, by Captain Wilson and a party of R.E., in the form of a rapid reconnaissance, admirably carried out. After Wilson's return to England, the Committee of the Fund obtained permission from the War Office to engage the services of Lieut. Warren, whose experience of practical surveying rendered him very fitted for the work, and who was also known as an officer of great determination of character.

Warren and his party of three corporals landed in Palestine in February 1867 and remained there until April 1870. Warren's explorations and excavations of Jerusalem form an important chapter in the history of archæology. In spite of obstruction of a very trying kind he was able to keep on good terms with the Turkish authorities, and by hook or by crook he got the work through. In particular, he discovered the wall of Ophel, the "gutter" up which Joab climbed when David captured the Jebusite city, the foundations of the sacred enclosure at the south-east corner, now buried in 80 feet of rubbish. He sank shafts on the hill of Ophel and across the Tyropeon valley to ascertain the depth of the rock surface, mapped the course of Hezekiah's tunnel, and was allowed to explore the rock-cut cisterns made for the storage of water in the Temple area, and much else. He settled several vexed questions of site, and amongst them that of the position of the Temple. Early in 1867 he executed a reconnaissance survey of the neighbourhood of Gaza and Askelon.

He retained his interest in Palestine to the last. He strongly supported the renewed excavation of the Hill of Ophel, which was carried out by the Fund in the years 1924 and 1925. At the end of the latter year, when the report on these excavations was being published, he assisted materially in the preparation of the map of the excavations, showing some of the main features of the primitive hilltop fortress which was the Jerusalem of 1000 B.C. He wrote several works on the subject of his excavations: 'Underground Jerusalem,' 1874, 'The Temple or the Tomb,' 1880; the 'Jerusalem' volume of the *Survey of Palestine*. He also wrote a little book on Ancient Weights and Measures, and edited an edition of Frome's 'Surveying' (1873). The cover of the *Quarterly Statement* of the Fund still shows a picture of Warren's great shaft, which was sunk at the south-eastern corner of the Haram enclosure.

On his retirement from the Army he "took up Church Lads' Brigade and Boy Scouts for practical work," as he wrote in a letter a few years ago; and he studied weights and measures as a hobby, particularly with reference to the possible connection of the ancient standards with the English standards. He would sometimes talk of his many experiences; the writer remembers how Warren described staving off an attack of fever in Palestine by staring intently at a mark in the ceiling of the house where he was spending the night, thus, as it were, hypnotizing himself into health! He certainly had determination enough for the feat, if it were possible.

C. F. C.

#### Dr. R. W. Felkin.

We regret to record the death, at his home in New Zealand on 28 December 1926, of Dr. Robert W. Felkin, a Fellow of forty-six years' standing, whose name has long been known to geographers in connection with the opening up of Central Africa in the latter part of the nineteenth century. On the foundation of the C.M.S. Mission in Uganda as a result of Stanley's appeal, expeditions were sent both from the East Coast and by way of the Nile, Felkin, who went out as a medical missionary, being one of the party which took the latter route, starting in 1878 and reaching Mtesa's capital in February 1879. The journey had been delayed somewhat owing to the obstruction of the bed of the Upper Nile then existing. He was the first Englishman to set eyes on both the great lakes of the Upper Nile. Circumstances compelling his return after a stay of three months only, he again took the northern route, but the river being still blocked, he and his companion, the Rev. C. T. Wilson, made an important journey overland across the whole breadth of the Bahr-el-Ghazal region, then most imperfectly known, from south-east to north-west, striking the Upper Bahr-el-Arab, the main western feeder of the Bahr-el-Ghazal, on its upper course, and continuing north to Dara in Darfur (reached on 31 December 1879), and so to Egypt. Both travellers gave an account of their experiences at an evening meeting of the Society in April 1880. The journey across the Bahr-el-Ghazal was for the greater part over new ground, and a route-survey carried out by the travellers was worked up in Germany by Dr. Hassenstein and published in *Petermanns Mitteilungen* in 1881, with accompanying letterpress.

Felkin was joint author with Wilson of an important work, 'Uganda and the Egyptian Sudan,' which appeared in two volumes in 1882, and was one of the editors of the 'Collection of Letters and Journals of Emin Pasha' (translated from the German by Mrs. Felkin), which came out in 1888. He also contributed various papers on medical and ethnological subjects to scientific journals,