

*Outlines of Tibeto-Burman Linguistic Morphology* was published in the Prize Publication Fund Series. Since then he has made a number of other contributions to our *Journal* and to the publications of other learned societies. His work was always marked by wide research and great care; nor was he merely an arm-chair scholar; he had resided for long periods in the Himalayan regions where the dialects which he was studying are still spoken. It is a tragedy that he was not able to complete, so far as we know at present, the wider and more comprehensive work for which he was obviously preparing himself, but his outlines by themselves entitle him to a permanent place on the roll of honour of the Society.

G. L. K. CLAUSON.

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### **Ella Constance Sykes**

We regret to have to record the death on the 23rd March of Miss Ella Constance Sykes, who held the Secretaryship of this Society during the years 1920–26. Educated at St. Margaret's Hall, Oxford, she turned to the East in 1894, when she joined her brother, Sir Percy Sykes, in Persia, where she accompanied him on many of his tours and wanderings in that historic country and neighbouring lands, including Balūchistān and India, Chinese Turkistān, and the Pāmīrs. Her experiences have been told in graphic and attractive style in her books, *Through Persia on a Side Saddle*, *Persia and its People*, and *Through Deserts and Oases of Central Asia* (in collaboration with her brother). These works reveal chiefly one side of her character, her keen observation of all that surrounded her, whether of historical, artistic or purely human interest, and her broad-minded sympathy with peoples of other faiths and other cultures. Her interest in "things Asian" never flagged, and among her closest friends were men and women distinguished for exploration and wide travel in that continent.

In later years she devoted herself largely to other causes. Between the periods spent in the East she twice visited Canada on behalf of the Colonial Intelligence League to study the conditions bearing on the employment of educated women in that Dominion, and there she personally tested the possibilities by taking up herself any work—even menial—that offered, in rural as well as urban parts. *A Home-help in Canada*, in which she tells of this work, sets a fine example to all British women having the welfare of the Empire at heart.

Coming home from Central Asia during the Great War, Miss Sykes organized canteen work in France. In 1920, she accepted the post of Secretary to this Society, for the functions of which she was well equipped by her Asian experience and her literary attainments. On relinquishing these duties, her practical knowledge was utilized for many years past on the Governing Body of the Church of England Council of Empire Settlement, the objects of which she had warmly at heart, and latterly as Hon. Secretary of the Girls' Friendly Society, Kensington. Her counsel and selfless devotion to the work in hand in these and other capacities will be greatly missed ; and many " little nameless, unremembered acts " of service will not be forgotten. Her character was well exemplified by the fortitude with which she bore the physical suffering entailed by two unfortunate accidents that befell her in her last years.