

## OBITUARY NOTICES

### Professor Jarl Charpentier

The news of the sudden death of Professor Charpentier on 5th July, 1935, came as a shock to his friends in this country who were looking forward to his usual visit during the Long Vacation. He was here for the last time in September and October, 1934 ; and, although he had evidently not fully recovered from a long and trying illness earlier in the year, there seemed to be every prospect of his ultimate restoration to health and strength. *Dis aliter visum*. The world has lost one of its most learned Oriental scholars ; and those who knew him well miss a warm-hearted and a constant friend.

Jarl Hellen Robert Toussaint Charpentier was born on 17th December, 1884. His father was a Major in the Swedish army, and his mother belonged to the family which has given to Sweden one of its most distinguished historians, Erik Gustaf Geijer. As a boy, Charpentier was educated at the Latin Grammar School of Gothenburg, where the foundations were laid for his unusually extensive and exact knowledge of the classical literatures of Greece and Rome. In 1902 he entered the University of Uppsala, where he was attracted to Oriental studies through the medium of comparative philology. His teacher was Professor K. F. Johansson, the University Professor of Sanskrit and the Comparative Philology of the Indo-European Languages. Another of his teachers was Professor Jacobi, with whom he studied at Bonn before completing his University course at Uppsala. He never failed to acknowledge the debt of gratitude which he owed to the inspiration of these two great scholars.

In 1908 he proceeded to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Uppsala and was at once appointed Assistant Professor. He became Deputy Professor on Professor Johansson's retirement in 1925, and succeeded him as Professor in 1927.

For his inauguration as doctor, Charpentier presented his thesis on *Paccakabuddhageschichten*—the first of a series of *Studien zur indischen Erzählliteratur* which was continued in the *Journal* of the German Oriental Society for the years 1908, 1910, and 1912.

His earliest contributions to learned periodicals are philological and are devoted to the Lithuanian and Balto-Slavic languages. From the date of their appearance (1906) until the present year the stream of his publications is continuous. The long list of his works, great and small, which is given in the *Upsala Universitets Matrikel* for the year 1926, contains about seventy entries; and if the list were completed that number would be very considerably increased. It includes works written in Swedish, French, German, and English, and dealing with a great variety of subjects, such as the etymology and structure of the various Indo-European languages, the mythology of the Veda and Avesta, the Sanskrit and Prakrit languages and literatures, the religious and political history of ancient and mediaeval India, the accounts given of ancient and mediaeval India by Western writers, etc. It must suffice here to mention a few only of the more important of these: *Die Desiderativbildungen der indo-iranischen Sprachen* (1912); *Die Suparnasage: Untersuchungen zur altindischen Literatur und Sagengeschichte* (1920–2); the *Uttarādhyāyanasūtra*, being the first Mūlasūtra of the Śvetāmbara Jains, edited with an introduction, critical notes, and a commentary (1921–2); *Brahman, eine sprachwissenschaftlich - exegetisch - religionsgeschichtliche Untersuchung* (1932); Fenicio's *Livro da Seita dos Indios Orientais*: Portuguese text with Malayālam verses, edited with an introduction and notes in English (1932–3); the *Indian Travels of Apollonius of Tyana* (1934). Probably the latest of his publications is the article on "William of Rubruck and Roger Bacon" in the complimentary volume of the *Geografiska Annaler* (1935) dedicated to his friend Sven Hedin.

The chief characteristic of Charpentier's work is perhaps its thoroughness: the reader is left with the impression that he had mastered his subject from beginning to end in all its details. He had a most retentive memory from which nothing seemed to escape. His bibliographical introductions are admirable in their fullness.

He was an omnivorous reader and was interested in many things. In ordinary conversation he would often surprise his English hearers by his intimate acquaintance with English history and literature or by his knowledge of the politics of the present day.

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E. J. RAPSON.

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### James Henry Breasted

Death has laid a heavy hand on Egyptology during the last two years. There have passed from amongst us in this country, Weigall, Peet, Griffith, Hunt, Budge, and Quibell; in Germany, Sethe and Wreszinski; in Holland, Boeser. And now to this list we have to add the name of the doyen of American Orientalists, Breasted.

James Henry Breasted, the son of Charles and Harriet (*née* Garrison) Breasted, was born at Rockford, Illinois, 27th August, 1865. He was educated at the North Central College, Chicago Theological Seminary, and Yale University. Having early manifested a deep interest in ancient Oriental history, and especially that of Egypt, he proceeded to Berlin University, where he studied Egyptology under Erman. His first Egyptological publication, giving manifest promise of a brilliant career, was his doctoral thesis, for the subject of which he chose the so-called monotheistic hymns of Amarna, composed in the reign of the heretic king Amenophis IV—Akhenaten (*De Hymnis in Solem sub rege Amenophide conceptis*, Berlin, 1894). In the same year Breasted rendered a great service to all English-speaking students by publishing an English translation of Erman's