

harbour, at the point intended as that of embarkation; and the English Government having refused to incur the expense of its removal, it would finally have been broken up in 1874, had not Sir James Alexander, who had long endeavoured to call public attention to the matter, personally interfered, and undertaken at his own expense a voyage to Alexandria, and, with the aid of the British consul-general, succeeded in rescuing it from destruction. On his return he renewed his exertions, so many years unsuccessful, and obtained the munificent pecuniary assistance of Sir Erasmus Wilson, by which after great difficulties the obelisk was transported to England and erected in its present site. The country must be considered indebted to Sir James Alexander's persevering energy for its possession of this most valuable and interesting antiquity.

It would be difficult to enumerate the various other works of public and private character, whether in England or abroad, in which he was constantly engaged, and bore a leading and prominent part; these will long be gratefully remembered by those who benefited by his exertions.

Of him may truly be said, that in all countries whatever good work he found at his hand to do that he did with heart and soul; and in him those who had the privilege of his acquaintance recognised that highest type of character, the single-hearted, high-minded Christian gentleman, whose life was devoted to duty and to the promotion of the interest and welfare of his fellow countrymen, and the communities among whom his lot might be more immediately cast.

ALEXANDER JAMES RUSSELL, C.S.

Mr Alexander James Russell, Clerk to Her Majesty's Signet, Edinburgh, who died recently—8th January 1887—at the age of seventy-two, was head of the firm known formerly as Russell & Nicolson, C.S., and latterly as Russell & Dunlop, and the business which he carried on was one of the oldest in Edinburgh, dating back to the end of the seventeenth century, and having descended in the direct line from father to son.

His father, Mr John Russell, was principal Clerk of Session, and

Secretary of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and his great-great grandfather was solicitor for the sale of the forfeited estates in Scotland after the Rebellion of 1715, and one of the original shareholders of the Bank of Scotland. On his mother's side, Mr Russell was closely related to the ancient Scottish family of Murray of Polmaise, his mother having been the daughter of the late Mr Murray of Polmaise, and he was a great-grandson of Principal Robertson, the Scottish historian. He was for many years a director of the National Bank of Scotland and of the Standard Life Assurance Company, and for some time latterly solicitor to that Company. In politics he was a Conservative, but he did not take any active part in political life. Mr Russell was married—first, to Miss Magdalene Stein, daughter of the late Andrew Stein, Esq. of Wester-Greenyards, Fifeshire, and secondly, to Miss Elizabeth Anne Lancaster, daughter of the late Samuel Lancaster, Esq. of Hemborough, Devon, who now survives him. He left also an only son, Colonel J. Cecil Russell, late of the 12th Lancers, and for some time an equerry to the Prince of Wales.