

JOHN HERBERT MONK SMITH, F.R.A.S., C.S.I.

On September 3rd, 1920, passed away at Ravenswood, near Wokingham, his old home, Mr. John Herbert Monk Smith, a distinguished Member of the Indian Civil Service, who achieved success in astronomical studies. He was born in 1863, the son of the late Mr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Smith, of Ravenswood. He was educated at Cheltenham College and Cooper's Hill, whence he went to India, having been appointed to the Engineering department of the State Railways. Earlier in his career he was sent to Burmah, to survey and lay the lines of the railways in the newly-annexed country. For 18 years he served in India, and was then invalided home. During the last 17 years he has been an invalid, but he devoted himself to the study of practical and theoretical astronomy. His mathematical training at Cooper's Hill enabled him to work out abstruse calculations, and often to correct the errors of other workers. He corresponded with several other astronomers, made observations with his own telescope, and his astronomical studies afforded him great interest and much relief during his long illness.

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