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THE LATE PROFESSOR WESTWOOD.

We are much pleased to be able to give in this issue a likeness of the very eminent entomologist, Professor Westwood, for which we are indebted to the kindness of the publishers of the *Illustrated London News*.

John Obadiah Westwood, M.A., F.L.S., etc., was born at Sheffield, England, on the 22nd of December, 1805, and died shortly after completing his 87th year, on the 2nd of January last. His father was a die-sinker at Sheffield, but afterwards removed to Lichfield. When nearly 16 years of age, he went to London to be articled to a solicitor, and though he devoted his attention more to the study of natural history than of law, he was admitted as a solicitor and became partner in a firm. Having some private means, which he augmented by writing and drawing, he was enabled to neglect his profession and give himself up almost entirely to entomology and archæology.

To quote Mr. McLachlan's obituary notice in *The Entomologist's Monthly Magazine*, "it was probably by his rare, artistic talent that he acquired much of his justly great reputation. His drawings of insects were masterpieces of accuracy without the slightest attempt at effect, and rapidly executed; few have equalled him in correct delineation. There certainly never has been an entomologist who left behind him so much evidence, in practical work, of his ability to delineate insects, even to the most minute dissections. But Westwood was much more than an artist in entomology. There probably never has existed, and, in the present state of the science, there never can again exist, one who had so much general knowledge, both from personal investigation and a study of the works of others; one who was less of a specialist in the modern acceptation of the term. It is true he was a specialist, but it was in the way of taking up small groups in all orders, and working them out thoroughly, his artistic talent giving merit and force to those small monographs. Under a somewhat brusque manner was concealed a hearty sympathy for all real workers, and, if he offended, it was commonly in the way of pointing out to would-be introducers, etc., of supposed novelties that some one or other had already made similar observations, his vast mem-

ory rendering him very dangerous in this respect. In society there could be no more genial companion, full of anecdote, but with small appreciation of humour. At home there could be no more generous host."

Professor Westwood was best known on this side of the Atlantic from his admirable work—"An Introduction to the Modern Classification of Insects," which was published in two volumes in 1839 and 1840. Every entomologist, worthy of the name, has no doubt made a study of this book, which still continues to be the best text-book on the subject in the English language. His sumptuous works on exotic insects, such as his "Arcana Entomologica," "Oriental Entomology," and his edition of Drury's "Exotic Insects," are also widely known, but his numerous contributions to various Natural History periodicals, a mere list of which would fill a volume, are not so familiar to our students. He was a most industrious and prolific writer, and made investigations in almost every family of insects in all the orders. His work is always characterized by its marvellous accuracy and patient elaboration of details both of structure and habit. Very rarely was he ever known to make a mistake.

He was actively associated with the Entomological Society of London from its foundation in 1833, and was for many years its Secretary. Subsequently he was elected President at three periods of two years each, and was made Honorary Life President when the Society celebrated its jubilee in 1883. He was a Fellow of the Linnæan Society from 1827, and an Honorary or Corresponding Member of Scientific Societies all over the world.

In 1858 the Rev. F. W. Hope, a wealthy amateur, who had been for years a warm friend and patron of Westwood, and had purchased his collections, gave them and his own to the University of Oxford, and founded a Professorship of Invertebrate Zoology, which bears his name. Westwood was appointed the first Hope Professor, and, in consequence, removed to Oxford, where he was a conspicuous figure in the University for five and thirty years.

Besides his Entomological work, he was a distinguished Archæologist and was widely known amongst those of kindred tastes by his investigations of the "Palæographia Sacra Pictoria," his "Lapidarium Walliæ," and "Fac Similes of the Miniatures and Ornaments of Anglo-Saxon and Irish Manuscripts." He formed a remarkable collection of carved ivories and inscribed stones, as well as of insects. In all respects he was a remarkable man, and accomplished, by dint of steady industry and enthusiastic perseverance during a long life, an amount of valuable scientific work that has rarely, if ever, been excelled.