

Library, 720.6

*H. C. D. Walcott, Esq. to be sent.*

From the "Proceedings of the Royal Society," 1922.

WITH KIND REGARDS,

J. R. R. STEBBING,  
JUNBRIDGE WELLS.

QL  
31  
B673S74  
1922  
SLRA

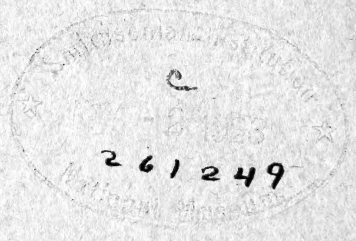
OBITUARY NOTICE

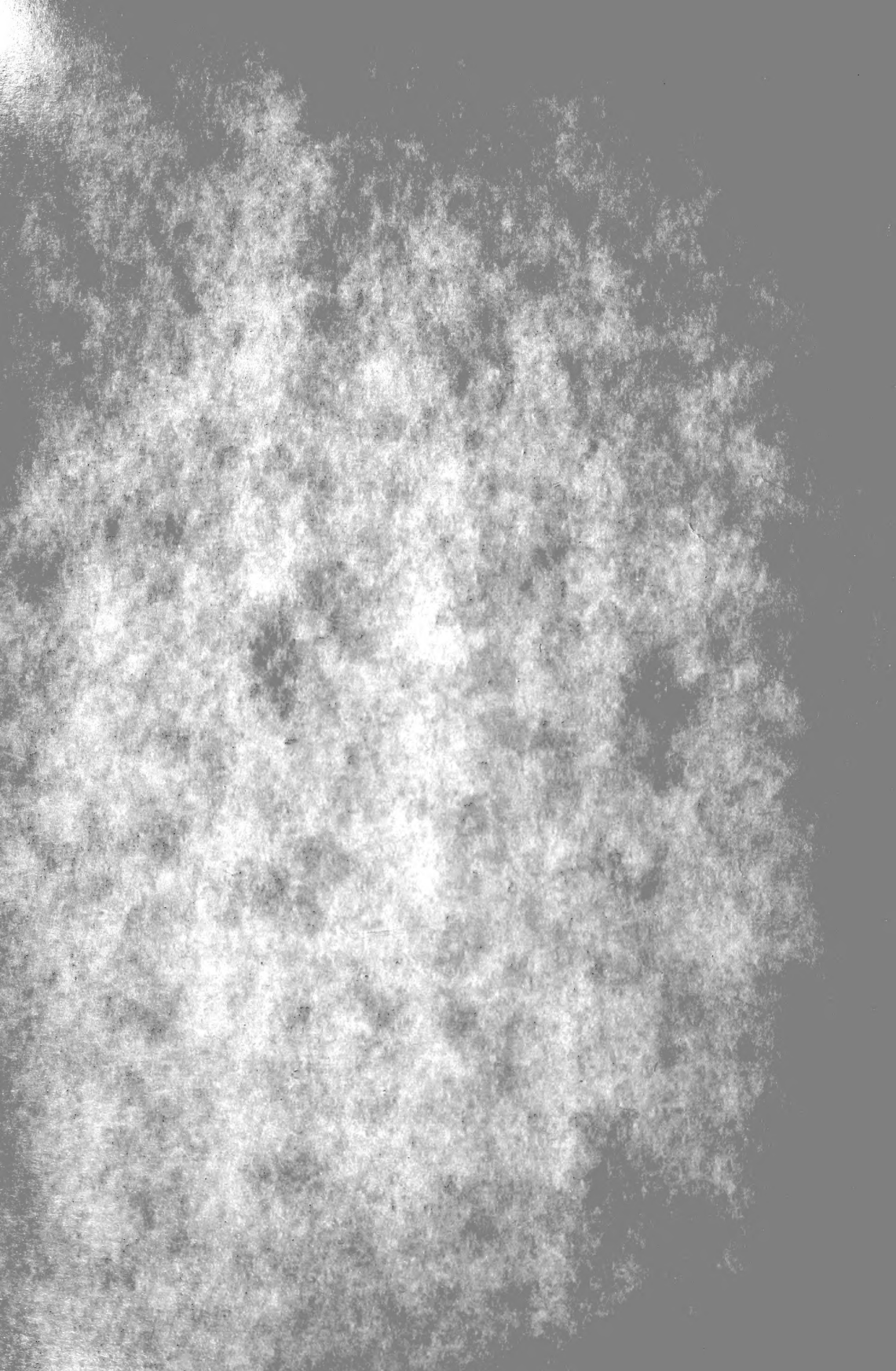
OF

GEORGE STEWARDSON BRADY.

(WITH PORTRAIT.)

1832-1921.









920 J





*George S. Brady*

31  
8673874  
1922  
SLRA

GEORGE STEWARDSON BRADY, 1832—1921.

G. S. BRADY, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S., C.M.Z.S., Professor of Natural History, Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Consulting Physician to the Sunderland Infirmary, was born, he told me, April 18th, 1832. Presumably also on his authority we learn that the event occurred at Gateshead, and that he was the eldest son of Henry Brady, surgeon.

As his childish education began at the Friends' School, Ackworth, it is not improbable that he owed the name Stewardson to his parents' acquaintance with the Quaker family which gave the popular portrait-painter of that name to the early part of the nineteenth century. Certainly the whole tenor of Brady's life seems to have been in tune with the principles of that peace-loving community, and even on the scientific side there are many indications that friendship was his delight. It has been already explained in 'Nature' (January 5th, 1922), among other details, that he became a member of the Tyneside Naturalists' Field Club in 1849. At that early period it is said that his interest was "with algæ and other plant groups." Much later on he referred to these studies when pointing out in correspondence (November, 1902), that the organisms which I had described as gland-cells in the amphipod genus *Urothæ*, were, in fact, "parasites, probably algæ."

With the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, of which the Tyneside Field Club was a branch, Brady had a long and distinguished connexion, both as a frequent contributor to its 'Transactions,' and twice President of the Field Club. The respect felt for him by fellow-workers in systematic zoology may be partially traced by the use of his name in classification. Thus among Copepoda Axel, Boeck names a genus *Bradya* in 1872, Thomas Scott supplies *Neobradya* in 1892, Giesbrecht *Bradyopontius* in 1895, and *Bradyidius* in 1897, Vanhöffen *Bradyanus* in the same year, and G. O. Sars *Pseudobradya* in 1904. Sars had named a genus *Bradycinetus* in 1865. But this suggests a curious need for caution in that many generic names owe the commencing syllables Brady-, not to eminent zoologists, but to the Greek *βραδύ*, indicating some organic slowness, and very inappropriate to the scientific activities of George Brady and his brother Henry. For the use of the former's name in identifying species, his friend A. M. Norman led the way with the Ostracode *Cythere Bradii* in 1864. But this, for technical reasons, gave way to another species, the Marquis de Folin's *Cythere Bradii* in 1869. Norman, in 1878, named a Copepod *Cervinia Bradyi*, Sars in 1884 another of that group *Undinopsis Bradyi*, and Thomas Scott a third in 1892 as *Tetragoniceps Bradyi*, but this, later on, he found reason to place in a new genus with the long-flowing name of *Phyllopodopsyllus*, strictly meaning "a leaf-footed flea," the species being notable for "the large size and leaf-like form of the fifth pair of thoracic feet of the female." In a footnote to *Tetragoniceps Bradyi*, Dr. Thomas Scott

remarks, "the name is given in compliment to Prof. G. S. Brady, who instituted the genus, and to whose untiring and disinterested kindness the author of these notes owes much of his success in the study of the Entomostraca." In 1879 Dr. Norman again pays his friend the compliment of using his name for a species, this time in the eccentric group of the Sympoda, to which he adds the description of *Diastylis Bradyi*.

In the previous year the Ray Society had published the first volume of Brady's "Monograph of the free and semi-parasitic Copepoda of the British Islands." As the uninitiated may be excused for wondering why men of ability should spend a considerable part of their lives in studying creatures so insignificant in size and so generally harmless to mankind, as the Entomostraca, it may be observed that, as in old Camden's phrase, "many a little makes a mickle," and as little grains of sand may make a mountain, so the stupendous multitudes in which some of the entomostracan species occur make them indirectly yet ultimately important contributors to human food and comfort. But, apart from economic values, the true lover of nature finds in this seemingly trivial study more than one source of æsthetic fascination. In the introduction to Brady's last-mentioned work he says:—"Some of the pleasantest and most profitable hours which I have ever spent have been when, after a day's dredging, I have set out at sunset on a quiet boating excursion for the purpose of capturing such prey as could be got in the surface net. Many hours of this kind, spent in the company of my old friend Mr. David Robertson, amongst the Scilly Islands, on the Firth of Clyde, on the sheltered bays of Roundstone and Westport, or on the stormier coasts of Northumbria, will long live in my memory, not only by their results in the acquisition of valuable specimens, but as times of unalloyed delight in the contemplation of nature under a different guise from that in which we usually see her." The David Robertson to whom he here alludes, otherwise known as "the Naturalist of Cumbrae" (see his 'Life by his Friend,' 1891), began a notable career as a penniless herdboy, and ended it an Hon. LL.D. of Glasgow University.

In the bibliography to his luminous work on the Ostracoda of the Bay of Naples and the adjacent seas (1894), G. W. Müller enumerates twenty-one contributions by Brady to this branch of Carcinology, together with seven others in which his was the leading name in a collaboration. Five of these were undertaken with David Robertson, one with Norman, and one with Crosskey and Robertson together. When the first volume of the "Challenger" Reports on Zoology was published in 1880 under the editorship of Sir C. Wyville-Thomson, Brady was already a recognised authority on the Ostracoda. He was among those specially consulted as to the disposal of the vast "Challenger" material, and his was the third memoir to appear. It was illustrated by forty-four quarto plates. For the comparative fewness of new species he explains that the "work of the 'Challenger' gave us no collections whatever from between tide marks, nor from the laminarian zone, and these two zones usually swarm with microzoic life of all kinds." A later work of much



importance was that which he carried out in partnership with Canon Norman on "The Marine and Freshwater Ostracoda of the North Atlantic and of North-Western Europe," the first part appearing in 1889, the second in 1896. In this he gives a signal example of his scientific ingenuity which is worthy of additional record. He points out (p. 622) that "In consequence of the small size of Ostracoda it is extremely difficult to procure spirit-preserved specimens from the deep sea, and although the *Myodocopa*, being much larger than the *Podocopa*, would be detected by the experienced eye of a Carcinologist who had studied them, yet the Zoologists usually attached to Government Expeditions cannot be expected thus to notice them. Hence it is that in a large number of cases the only examples which have come into our hands are such as have been picked out of dried material. It struck us that, notwithstanding their dried condition, it might yet be possible by maceration to get some idea of the withered inmates of the shells. We therefore made experiments, and succeeded in restoring the animals beyond our most ardent expectations. All the portions of the animals figured [in several genera and species mentioned] have been taken from dissections of animals which have been preserved in a dried state for very many, in one case, as long as twenty-three years, and we are satisfied that these drawings will be found to be almost as exact, so far as they go, as those taken from spirit-preserved examples."

In 1884, when the editing of the "Challenger" Reports had passed into the vigorous hands of John Murray, the eighth volume of Zoology appeared, having as its opening treatise Brady's Report on the Copepoda illustrated by fifty-five carefully drawn plates. Though the collection thus laboriously discussed presented many points of interest, Brady was forced to admit that it was far from representative of what the ocean's resources were likely to contain, and that the last word had not been said as to methods of preserving these organisms. In his Introduction he makes some remarks which bear on a subject previously mentioned:—"The appearance of these minute creatures at the surface depends upon conditions, the nature of which we scarcely at all understand. Night, on the whole, seems to be more favourable than daytime, but even during the day they sometimes appear in numbers so vast as to colour the sea in wide bands for distances of many miles. This appearance has been noticed, perhaps, most frequently in the tropics; but even in the Arctic seas some species, especially *Calanus (Cetochilus) finmarchicus*, are at times so abundant as to constitute, it is said, a most important item in the food of the whale. So far, indeed, as number and size of individuals are concerned, it would appear that the cold water of the Arctic and Antarctic seas are even more favourable to the growth of Copepoda than the warmer seas of the Tropics."

With his frequent and arduous contributions to scientific literature Brady combined, from 1857 till about 1890, the conscientious exercise of an exacting profession, practising as a doctor in Sunderland, "and after that gave up his time to his professorship at the Armstrong College, until he resigned in 1906

and . . . . came to live in Sheffield." His professorship he had held since 1875. He married in 1859 and had one son and three daughters, losing his wife ten years and his son one year before his own death. Two of his daughters are married to members of his own profession, one to Dr. Charles Atkin of Sheffield and another to Dr. R. S. Hubbersty of Sunderland, the third remaining with her father to the close of his days. He died on Christmas evening, 1921. Till the last year of what he himself described as his long and happy life, he had never realised that he was old. Apart from science, his amusements had all been of a tranquil kind—gardening, photography, and the game of bowls. A friend, who had been reading over many of his writings, tells his daughter that: "Dominating all is the intense love he had for nature, religion, and poetry." Another friend, who often walked with him, tells her of the enjoyment derived from the humour, instruction, and high tone of his conversation. A long correspondence is in harmony with these touches of character.

A letter from Sheffield, dated June, 1915, shows him at eighty-three, away from necessary books, reluctant to undertake fresh work of importance, yet unable to be disobliging. He explains that he had declined an invitation to describe the *Ostracoda* and *Copepoda* collected by the Australasian Antarctic Expedition, 1911–1914, under Sir Douglas Mawson, but that the material had nevertheless been sent him, with further pressure. Now, the Scientific Records of that Expedition show that in Series C the fifth volume contains monographs on the *Copepoda*, the *Cladocera*, and *Halocypridæ*, by G. S. Brady. A fine finish!

T. R. R. S.  
...









*Gaylord*  
PAMPHLET BINDER  
Syracuse, N. Y.  
Stockton, Calif.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION LIBRARIES



3 9088 00862 6848