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BY

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HON. MEMBER OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ATHENS.

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TO

JAMES COSSAR EWART, M.D., F.R.S.,

REGIUS PROFESSOR OF NATURAL HISTORY IN THE

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PREFACE.

THE present work is an attempt to solve one of the chief problems in the history of the horse, the most important (the ox not excepted) of all the animals domesticated by man. The nature of the inquiry rendered it necessary to treat not only of all the chief breeds of domestic horses known in historical times, but also to take a survey of all the other living Equidae, as well as of the ancestors of the genus. The question of coloration naturally holds a prominent place in the investigation, and I have tried to trace historically the origin of the various colours found in domestic horses. At the same time I have endeavoured to indicate, though it must be confessed rather cursorily, the influence exercised on the history of the chief nations of the ancient, medieval, and modern world by the possession of horses, and especially by the acquisition of what I venture to term the Libyan horse. I have also tried to point out the lessons of supreme importance to the breeder which can be learned from the contemplation of the injury wrought to breeds of great value by the ill-judged and unscientific introduction of alien blood, a practice in no small degree due to a lack of historical knowledge, and to a general belief that all our domestic races of horses, like those of tame pigeons, have been obtained solely by artificial breeding from a single wild species.

I must add a few words respecting the method of writing zoological names and the transliteration of foreign words. In zoological terminology I have, of course, conformed to the rule

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of the editor of the Cambridge Series in which this work appears, but my classical friends will understand my qualms when I have to describe, for instance, Burchell's zebra as *Equus burchelli* instead of using the usual Latin form, *Equus Burchelli*. I have used the form 'Prejvalsky's Horse' as the nearest English equivalent for *Equus przewalskyi* since the letter-combination *Prze* has no phonetic significance for the English reader. In Arabic words consistency was impossible, for although I myself use only the vowels *a*, *i* and *u* in transliteration, *e.g.*, Muhammad instead of Mahomet or Mahomed, in extracts from other writers I had, of course, to preserve faithfully the forms which each employed according to his fancy.

It only remains for me to express my gratitude to the many kind friends who have aided me in various ways: Dr James Cossar Ewart, F.R.S., Regius Professor of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh, has given me much of his time and has read through all my proofs, and twice through those of the first two chapters; whilst Mr R. I. Pocock, F.Z.S., the Superintendent of the Zoological Society's Garden, Regent's Park, has given me valuable aid by reading the proofs of the chapter on the Living Equidae. Mr A. E. Shipley, F.R.S., Fellow of Christ's College, and University Lecturer in Invertebrate Zoology, and editor of the Cambridge Biological Series, has also read the proofs and has aided me with various suggestions. Had it not been for their criticism and advice the shortcomings of this book, of which no one can be more sensible than the writer, would have been still more numerous; but for the many that remain I alone am responsible. To Dr W. L. H. Duckworth, Fellow of Jesus College, University Lecturer in Physical Anthropology, I am indebted for various important references, and above all for having called my attention to a hitherto unpublished head and neck of a quagga in the Elgin Museum, which I figure and describe (pp. 438-9); Mr A. W. Howitt, Hon. D.Sc., the well-known Australian ethnologist, of Metung, Victoria, has supplied me with the valuable account of the feral horses of Eastern Victoria, which I have embodied; Dr R. S. Conway, Professor of Latin in Manchester University, and late Fellow of Gonville and Caius College,

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made for me in Florence the very careful measurements of the chariot from Thebes; whilst Sir Ernest Clarke, M.A., St John's College, Secretary to the Royal Agricultural Society, has supplied me with several valuable notes which I have embodied, and has also aided me in obtaining the use of blocks and photographs. Dr M. R. James, the Provost of King's College, Cambridge, and Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, pointed out to me the drawings of Stradanus, reproduced in this work. I had the advantage of talking over many points in my book with the late Captain Maurice H. Hayes, the well-known author of *The Points of the Horse, etc.* Mr G. P. Bidder, M.A., Trinity College, long resident at Naples, and through him Mr E. Neville Rolfe, M.A., H.B.M. Consul for southern Italy, have given me much valuable information respecting the horses of Naples and southern Italy. I am also indebted for very important references or for help in various other ways to the following: Mr A. A. Bevan, M.A., Lord Almoner's Professor of Arabic and Fellow of Trinity College; Mr H. M. Chadwick, M.A., Fellow of Clare College; Mr J. G. Frazer, M.A., F.B.A., Hon. D.C.L., Hon. LL.D., Hon. D.Litt., Fellow of Trinity College; Dr C. S. Myers, Gonville and Caius College; Rev. Canon Greenwell, F.R.S., D.C.L.; Rev. T. T. Gray, M.A., Senior Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin; Mr J. Bass Mullinger, M.A., Librarian of St John's College; Mr R. C. Bosanquet, M.A., Trinity College, Director of the British School at Athens; Mr George Coffey, M.A., Keeper of the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy; Mr A. W. Mair, M.A., Professor of Greek in the University of Edinburgh, and Fellow of Gonville and Caius College; Mr Carl Hagenbeck, of Hamburg (for photographs); Mr C. W. Hawes, M.A., Trinity College (for the use of photographs); Dr J. Venn, F.R.S., President of Gonville and Caius College; Mr J. A. Venn, B.A., Trinity College (for photographs); Dr M. M. Hartog, Professor of Natural History in Queen's College, Cork; Mr Cecil Bendall, M.A., Professor of Sanskrit in the University of Cambridge, late Fellow of Gonville and Caius College; Mr Harold Littledale, M.A., Trinity College, Dublin, Professor of

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English Literature in University College, Cardiff; Mr Clement Gutch, M.A., Lecturer of St John's College; Mr E. H. Minns, M.A., Fellow and Librarian of Pembroke College; Dr A. C. Haddon, F.R.S., Fellow of Christ's College, University Lecturer in Ethnology, and late Professor of Zoology in the Royal College of Science, Dublin; Mr F. W. Green, M.A., Jesus College; Dr Scharff, the Head of the Department of Natural History in the National Museum of Ireland, and Director of the Zoological Gardens, Dublin; Dr Cecil H. Smith, Keeper of the Greek and Roman Antiquities, British Museum; Mr A. H. Smith, M.A., Trinity College, the Assistant-Keeper of the same Department; Dr Budge, Christ's College, Keeper of the Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities, British Museum; Dr Oscar Montelius, Director of the National Museum of Sweden; Dr Brunchorst, Director of the Bergen Museum; the Rev. J. Roscoe, C.M.S., Uganda, and Mrs Roscoe; Mr P. W. Sclater, F.R.S., late Superintendent of the Zoological Garden, Regent's Park; Mr H. Platnauer, Curator of the York Museum; Mr Gordon Taylor, Curator of the Elgin Museum; Don Angel Cabrera, Madrid; Mr W. W. Skeat, M.A., Christ's College; Mr J. Stanley Gardiner, M.A., Fellow and Dean of Gonville and Caius College; Mr E. C. Quiggin, M.A., Fellow and Lecturer of Gonville and Caius College; Mr R. C. Punnett, M.A., Fellow of Gonville and Caius College; Mr Alfred Newton, M.A., F.R.S., Professor of Zoology in the University of Cambridge, and Fellow of Magdalene College; Mr William Bateson, M.A., F.R.S., Fellow and Lecturer of St John's College, Deputy for the Professor of Zoology; Mr J. Graham Kerr, M.A., Professor of Natural History in the University of Glasgow, late Fellow of Christ's College; Mr T. McKenny Hughes, M.A., F.R.S., Professor of Geology in the University of Cambridge, and Fellow of Clare College; Dr Walter G. Headlam, Fellow and Lecturer of King's College; Rev. T. J. Pulvertaft, M.A.; Mr F. A. H. Marshall, M.A., Christ's College; Mr Theodore M. Davies (through Mr Percy E. Newberry); my brother-in-law, Mr Arthur Warren Samuels, LL.D., K.C.; my niece, Miss K. F. Samuels (for photographs); Lt.-Col. Herbert Irwin,

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Warwickshire Regiment; Mr G. E. Low, Foster Place, Dublin (for photographs); Mr Alfred J. Smith, Rendlesham, Suffolk; Mr W. B. Redfern; and Prof. H. F. Osborn, Hon. D.Sc., Columbia University, U.S.A. For the loan of blocks I have to thank the Department of Agriculture in Ireland (through Mr T. P. Gill), the Council of the Royal Irish Academy, the Council of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, and the Council of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society; and for permission to copy illustrations or to obtain electrotypes I am indebted to the Trustees of the British Museum, the Council of the Royal Zoological Society, the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, the Council of the Shire Horse Society, the Council of the Hellenic Society, Messrs A. J. Holman and Co., and Messrs Longman and Co.

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