

Village, Ilala, Africa, 1st May, 1873. He received some simple education from the age of ten to thirteen, when he was put to a trade in a cotton spinning and weaving factory. He kept his book at his side and would glance his eye over its pages, as he could snatch a moment. At twenty-four he went to Glasgow to study medicine, and secured accommodation in a room that cost him fifty cents a week. He secured his license in 1840, when he was twenty-seven years of age.

He landed in Africa in 1841, and till his death he made that dark continent the scene of his ceaseless labors for thirty-two years, with the exception of two brief visits home to Britain in 1856-59, and again for a few months in 1865. He was missionary, physician, teacher, explorer, guide, and friend to the tribes of Africa, among whom his name is still quite familiar. What he accomplished for that continent is beyond the power of words to tell!

No man ever faced greater trials and dangers. These he met with a calm fortitude, believing that "man is immortal until his work is done." With rare skill he met the superstitions of the natives and won out by his scientific methods. It is a remarkable fact that in all his difficulties with the native chiefs he always succeeded in arriving at an understanding without resorting to force or violence. In this his mastery of the native languages was of the utmost value to him.

He was a close observer of natural phenomena, and his diary is full of information on the plant and animal life of the various parts of Africa he travelled through. Very many of the doubtful points in African geography he cleared up. During these long journeys extending for thousands of miles in various directions and covering several years at a time, he endured the greatest hardships and suffered severely from malaria and dysentery.

Nothing could deter him from his purpose. The burning thought in his mind was to abolish the horrors of the slave traffic, which he daily saw in all its hideousness. To millions in Africa he carried life and light and liberty. To few members of the medical profession has it ever been granted to do so much for suffering humanity. He rests in fame as one of the immortals of the medical profession.

HON. DR. ROCHE.

For some time past Dr. Roche has been in indifferent health. His duties as Minister of the Interior are by no means light, and he was compelled to go south for a rest prior to undergoing an operation for gallstones.