

**The Pall Mall Gazette (London),
Wednesday, May 13, 1868**

Mr. John Crawfurd, the distinguished Oriental scholar and ethnologist, died on Monday night, at his residence in Elvaston-place, South Kensington. He was born in August, 1783, in the island of Islay. In 1803 he obtained a medical appointment in the Indian Service, and after spending five years in India, chiefly in the North-West Provinces, in the neighbourhood of Delhi and Agra, his professional duties took him to Penang, where he began to devote himself to that study of the languages and manners of the Malay race which was destined to make him widely known. In 1811 Mr. Crawfurd was invited by Lord Minto, then Governor-General of India, to accompany him on the expedition which effected the conquest of Java. After that event, in consequence of his acquaintance with the Malay languages, he was appointed to represent the British Government at the Court of one of the native Princes, and for nearly six years he filled some of the principal diplomatic offices of the island. It was then that he collected the materials for the work which he afterwards published, entitled, "The History of the Indian Archipelago." Mr. Crawfurd returned to England in 1817, and in 1820 published the work just mentioned. In 1821 he went back to India, and shortly after his return was appointed to administer the new settlement of Singapore, where he remained three years, and concluded with the native chiefs to whom the settlement belonged the convention by which we hold its sovereignty. In 1826 he returned to Bengal, and was forthwith appointed Commissioner in Pegu, and eventually, on the conclusion of peace, Envoy to the Burmese Court. In 1827 Mr. Crawfurd finally returned to England, and in the following year published an account of his mission to Siam and Cochin China, and in 1829 another of his mission to Burmah. During the remainder of his life he was an indefatigable contributor to the press on matters relating to the East, and on many other subjects, and took an active part in the proceedings of the Geographical and Ethnological Societies.