

*Obituary Notice of E. H. Furuhjelm.*

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ON the last day but one of the past year, on the 30th December, 1886, one of Finland's most prominent miners, Enoch Hjalmar Furuhjelm, the Intendant of Mines, was suddenly cut off. Mr. Furuhjelm having been a Member of the Mineralogical Society, the Secretary has requested me to write a short memoir of the deceased for the Journal of the Society, and feeling highly honoured by this request I give the following sketch of Mr. Furuhjelm's public career.

The life of Enoch Hjalmar Furuhjelm exhibits a rich variety of researches and ardent labour in the department of mining industry, which doubtless for him would have opened a future with a more extensive sphere of activity than that in which he has now closed his days, had not his great longing for quiet and warm attachment to his native country made him devote all his abilities to its service.

After completing his preparatory studies at home, he went to Freiberg in the year 1847, and at the famous Academy of that town he increased his stock of knowledge, of which he then had opportunity to make practical use during a journey in the year 1850, when he visited Saxony, Styria, Carinthia, Carniola, The Tyrol, Bavaria, the Hartz and Sweden.

He had scarcely returned to Finland, when he was appointed Mining Engineer and Chemist at the Mines of Count Sergei Stroganoff in the Ural. There he remained till 1853, occupied with divers mineralogical researches in the Ural range, and making geological examinations in the valley of the river Tscheswo, and in the coal formations along the river Kyn in the Perm Government. From 1853 to 1862 Mr. Furuhjelm served the Russian American Company as a mining engineer. About this time he issued several publications, such as a topographical map of the environs of the Fort Novo Archangelsk, on the Island of Sitka, a geological survey of the so-called Indian Archipelago between Sitka and the North American Continent, and a geological examination of the Unalashka Islands belonging to the Aleutian group. In the year 1856 he founded a settlement at Cook's Passage at the English Bay, and from 1859-62 he was the inspector of this settlement. During his engagement in the service of the above-mentioned Company he made extensive journeys, and visited the copper works in Chili and California as well as the gold washings

on the Western slope of the Sierra Nevada. When he resolved to give up his situation in the service of the Company and to return to Finland, he made a tour on his return journey through the United States of North America, South Wales and Belgium.

From 1865-67 Mr. Furuhjelm was the Director of the Geological Survey of Finland, just then commenced. Later he undertook an official journey to Acoz in Belgium, where he stayed two years.

The geologic-paleontological material collected by Mr. Furuhjelm at Sitka has been described by Heer in his *Flora Fossilis Alaskana*, which publication also contains Mr. Furuhjelm's description of the geological formations of Sitka. In 1874 Mr. Furuhjelm was elected a member of the Geological Association of Stockholm, in 1875 a member of the Iron and Steel Institute in London and of the Imperial Russian Mineralogical Society in St. Petersburg. In 1880 he became a member of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland. In 1882 he was appointed Vice-President of the Jury for Group IV. of the Universal Russian Exhibition in Moscow.

Such was in short the public life of this energetic and laborious man. A man in the finest significance of the word, endowed with a noble and feeling heart, hidden behind an exterior somewhat harsh and rough, from his early life having been so full of hardship and struggle.

May he rest softly and peacefully in the grave, which so unexpectedly closed over him !

HJALMAR GYLLING.

Helsingfors, October 1887.

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