The Untold Story of Sir Ronald Ross

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Terminix International
• Born May 13, 1857 – Fringe of Indian Himalayas
• Oldest of 10 children
• Father – BG Sir Campbell Claye Grant Ross
• Mother – Matilda Charlotte Elderton
• “Like all mothers…….(she) was the best in the world…”

Flag of British India Army
• 1865 – back to England for school
• Proficient in math – natural
• Interest in natural history
• Age 17 – enrolled in medical school
• 1879 – failed to qualify
• 1880 – Ship’s Surgeon
Rosa Bessie Bloxam Ross - 1902

L to R - Dorothy, Sylvia and Campbell Ross
- 1889 – Returned to India
- Began to study mosquitoes
- Ignorant of the literature
- Criticized Laveran's findings
Ronald Ross
• 1894 – year’s furlough, met Patrick Manson
• Convinced of Laveran’s observations
• Heard Manson’s theory on mosquito transmission
• Series of letters between Manson and Ross
• Manson kept Ross focused and preached urgency
• Both men needed each other for success
• Multiple handicaps
• “To study Plasmodium…..”
• Contaminated water studies
• Human malaria parasites in Anopheles
• Mosquito Day – August 20, 1897
• No human malaria

• Malaria life cycle in sparrows and *Culex*

• Experimental career ended in 1899
Sir Ronald Ross received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1902. He was nominated twice prior to winning the award:

- Nominated in 1901
- Nominated in 1902

Three finalists were considered, but Ross was the winner. The prize included:

- 7,880 pounds sterling
- A Nobel Prize medal

The Swedish King Oscar II presented the Nobel Prize to Sir Ronald Ross.
Grave of Sir Ronald Ross