

## **CONTRIBUTIONS ECLIPSED BY HISTORY: THE BRITISH ECLIPSE EXPEDITIONS OF 1889**

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The year 1889 saw both the first eclipse expeditions executed by the Permanent Eclipse Committee of the Royal Astronomical Society (RAS) as well as likely the first all-female British eclipse expedition. From under-recognition of local support to misrepresentation of observation results from the female astronomers, these three British expeditions reveal that a great deal of practical and technical support given to RAS expeditioners was often absent from their official reports. Specifically, this talk will look at the under-recognition of astronomers Elizabeth Brown and previously-anonymised Martha Louisa Jefferys in their expedition to Trinidad, the prison-labour assistance provided to RAS astronomers Rev. Joseph Perry and John Rooney in French Guiana, and the interaction (or notable lack thereof) between locals and visiting expeditioners in the visit of RAS astronomer Albert Taylor to Kisama, a region of (present-day) Angola which was outside of de facto Portuguese control at the time.