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HALL, SYDNEY PRIOR (1842-1922)

Born 18 October 1842 to a painter father, Sydney Prior Hall was educated at Merchant Taylors' School, Pembroke College Oxford and the Royal Academy Schools. Hall had a long career as special artist for *The Graphic*; his illustrations were key in establishing *The Graphic's* reputation. From 1870-71 he covered the Franco-Prussian war, and his drawings of the siege of Paris were famously sent to London by balloon post. Several of these drawings were published in 1875 as *Sketches from an Artist's Portfolio*, which he dedicated to the Prince of Wales. Hall also collaborated with Parker Gillmore on several books based on his experiences, including *All Round the World: Adventures in Europe, Asia, Africa and America* (1871) and *Adventures in Many Lands* (1879). Hall provided illustrations for Bulwer Lytton's *The Parisians* in 1873. After the war, Hall largely illustrated tours of royalty and dignitaries; the Prince of Wales, for example, asked Hall to accompany him on his Indian tour of 1875-6. Hall provided sketches from this tour to illustrate William Howard Russell's publication *The Prince of Wales' Tour: A Diary in India, with some account of the visits of His Royal Highness to the Courts of Greece, Egypt, Spain and Portugal, with illustrations by Sydney P. Hall* (1877). He then illustrated journeys taken to Canada by Princess Louise and the Marquess of Lorne in 1879, and again in 1881 when the Marquess of Lorne travelled around the North West Territories. *The Graphic* ran this series of over one hundred images from August 1881 to February 1882. Hall famously travelled with the Duke and Duchess of York aboard the *HMS Ophir* in 1901, and his images were published in *The Graphic*. Hall died 15 December 1922 in London. **AD**

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- Pottle, Mark. 'Hall, Sydney Prior (1842–1922).' *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. Online ed. Ed. Lawrence Goldman. Oxford: OUP. 1 Jan. 2014. www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/52024.
- Russell, William Howard. *The Prince of Wales' Tour: A Diary in India, with some account of the visits of His Royal Highness to the Courts of Greece, Egypt, Spain and Portugal, with illustrations by Sydney P. Hall*. London: Sampson Low, Marson, Searle & Rivington, 1877.
- 'Sydney Prior Hall'. *SCOOP Database*. 20 November 2013. <http://www.scoop-database.com>