WHO WAS HENRY DUNANT’S BROTHER?

Henry Dunant’s younger brother, Pierre-Louis Dunant, was born in Geneva in 1834 and died in that town in 1918. According to an article in * Médecine et hygiène* (Geneva, 27 October 1976), he shared his elder brother’s concern for humanitarian problems.

After medical studies in Paris, Pierre-Louis Dunant resettled in his native town and gave his attention to hygiene, demography and other questions. He was appointed professor of hygiene at the Faculty of Medicine and, in 1882, Secretary General of the International Hygiene Congress, of which he published the reports. He was the author of several monographs on social medicine and demography, and for a long time compiled a monthly bulletin of statistics of deaths and epidemic diseases.

He also did practical humanitarian work in connection with various charitable bodies in Geneva. He was one of the founders of a convalescent home for women and was for a long time its consultant physician. Like his brother Henry, he had probably been influenced by his mother who herself devoted a great deal of energy to helping the poor.¹

¹ When referring to his mother, in his *Mémoires*, Henry Dunant wrote: « There are many examples in history of mothers who had great influence on sons who rendered signal service to mankind ». 

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