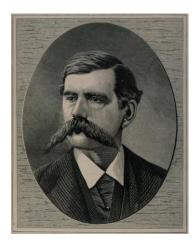
ARTHUR PEMBER (1835-1886)



Arthur Pember was born in Lambeth, London on 9 July 1835 to John Edward Ross Pember (1802-1881) – a member of the stock exchange – and Fanny Robson (1811-1873). He was the third child of 9. He attended Christchurch, Oxford University in 1850, and was awarded a first in Classical Moderations and Literae Humanities and a third in Law and History in 1854, with an MA conferred in 1857. He became a barrister on 26 January 1858 before ultimately becoming a journalist and writer in the USA.

Arthur Pember represented the No Names of Kilburn at the meetings that led to the foundation of the FA in 1863, and whilst he was not widely considered to be a footballer of the standard of, for example, CW Alcock or EC Morley, he was a charismatic and intelligent individual.

Following the foundation of the FA in 1863, Arthur Pember emigrated to New York, USA, in 1868 with his wife and two of his three young children. His daughter Lilian Pember (1866-1925) was adopted by his older brother, Edward Henry Pember (1832-1911). He was a journalist for the New York Times and wrote a number of travel books, including Arthur Pember 1875), The Mysteries and Miseries of the Great Metropolis, with some adventures in the country: being the disguises and surprises of a New York journalist, New York: D. Appleton.

Arthur Pember died aged 50 on 3 April 1886 in North Dakota, USA.

What the others say...

"Such a choice seems to be an anomaly since he did not fit the mould of Alcock, Kinnaird, Marindin, and Morley who were sportsmen of note yet there was Pember leading the pack. This was not just a quirk of history but a clear recognition from his contemporaries of his undoubted charisma and leadership skills."

John Blythe Smart (2007), Arthur Pember's Great Adventures.