Roberto Ivens Encyclopedia Article

Roberto Ivens

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1850-1898

Portuguese explorer who, with Menigildo Capello, explored portions of southern Africa and traversed the continent from west to east. Their expedition, whose purpose was to survey the hydrographic basins of the Congo and Zambesi Rivers, ran into difficulties when some local tribal chiefs refused to provide assistance, fearing their men would not return. However, Ivens and Capello pressed onward, making many new discoveries and correcting many erroneous reports of previous explorers.