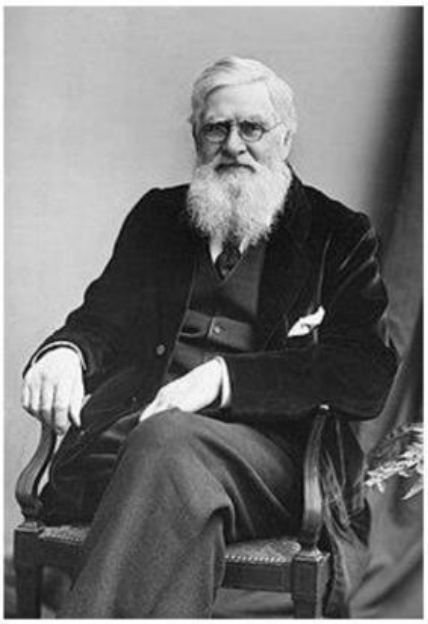
Alfred Wallace

Fill in the gaps with the words from the box:

obscurity	cementing	
shrewd	bout	spurred



Alfred Wallace was a British anthropologist and explorer. He wrote a series of articles on natural selection and the theory of evolution before Charles Darwin got onto it. So, why isn't natural selection called "Wallaceism?" It seems Wallace didn't fit the expected profile of a serious scientist. Not only was he interested in natural science, but he also took a keen interest in socialism, spiritualism, and the certainty of life on Mars.

Also, it seems that Wallace wasn't very 1)_____. Coming up with his theory after a 2)_____ of illness kept him in his bed, he wrote his ideas down and sent them to Darwin, who was working in the same field and who Wallace hoped would help him get the ideas published. Wallace's letter 3)_____ him to act. He hastily wrote his own paper. Both versions were read to members of the Linnean Society in 1858. However, Darwin used his connections to ensure that his was read first and followed it up by immediately publishing a book on the subject "On the Origin of Species", thus 4)_____ his reputation as the man who challenged God, while Wallace ultimately, faded into 5)_____.

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