THE ENGLISHWOMAN IN INDIA

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The Englishwoman in India by A Lady Resident

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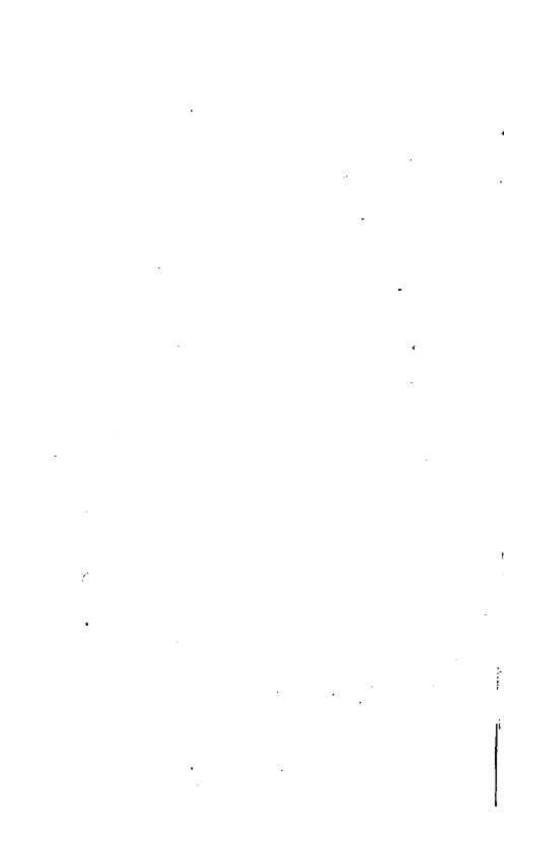
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A LADY RESIDENT

THE ENGLISHWOMAN IN INDIA



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ENGLISHWOMAN IN INDIA:

CONTAINING

INFORMATION FOR THE USE OF LADIES PROCEEDING TO, OR RESIDING IN, THE RAST INDIES, ON THE SUBJECTS OF THEIR

OUTFIT, FURNITURE, HOUSEKEEPING,

THE REARING OF CHILDREN,

DUTIES AND WAGES OF SERVANTS, MANAGEMENT OF THE STABLES,

AND

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAVELLING.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED

RECEIPTS FOR INDIAN COOKERY.

BY A LADY RESIDENT.

LONDON:

SMITH, ELDER AND CO., 65, CORNELL. 1864.

268. 6. 2.

CONTENTS.

CHAP.	Page
	Prepage vii
I.	OUTFIT FOR THE VOTAGE
П.	PERSONAL OUTPIT FOR USE IN INDIA 12
Ш.	FURNITURE AND HOUSEHOLD NECESSARIES DESIRABLE
	TO BE BROUGHT FROM HOME 21
IV.	Indian Bungalows, Furniture, Social Habits,
	BTC. 35
V.	Servants 41
VL	Housekeeping 1 62
VII.	STABLE 77
VIII.	TRAVELLING 84
IX.	REARING CHILDREN 95
X.	FARMTARD 107

CONTENTS.

INDIAN COOKERY.	Page
Introduction	
Sours	117
Bert	127
Veal	181
Ровк	135
MUTTON	184
POULTRY	188
GANE	140
MADE DISHES	149
Рън	14
Curries	150
Vegetables	15
Sauces.	15
PIE-CRUST AND PASTRY	163
Puddings	
Sweet Dishes	17:
Preserves	17
CARES AND BISCUITS	18
CHILDREN'S FOOD AND SICK COOKERY	18
DRINKS	
Miscellanbous	19
FAMILY DINNERS FOR A MONTH	20

PREFACE.

As a young lady, my outfit for India was undoubtedly a deeply interesting topic; as a young married lady the appointments of a house, horses, &c., demanded almost equal consideration. Naturally those upon whom the providing of these requisites devolved, consulted with friends who had visited that equally over-praised and over-abused country.

Wide were the differences in their opinions as to what it was necessary and desirable to purchase. "Muslins cannot be washed in India," gravely enunciated one ancient dame. "Silks cannot be worn," wrote a second. "Nonsense," ejaculated a third, younger and prettier than her predecessors in council, "I lived in Trichinopoly, the frying-pan of India, and very soon not only wore, but wore out the silks I took with me." "Two dozen nightcaps will be ample," suggested a fourth, and ample indeed they

proved, never having been needed at all! The finale of my misfortunes, from following all the good advice so liberally bestowed, was my purchasing a "lady's cloth" riding-habit, "so cool, so cheap, wears as well as broad-cloth;" in my innocence, and to my sorrow I believed them: it wore a few months only, and then was positively in ribbons!

"How much I should have saved myself and my friends, had there been a little book of useful practical advice on the wants of an Indian lady then available; but I never have seen such a volume." This was the thought which occupied me a good deal on my first arrival in the country; my resolve, springing from the knowledge of the want, was to supply it, if possible. Seven years' experience has shown me daily more and more what is needed in India by ladies of moderate means, and I have endeavoured to render this modest little book, as far as in me lies, a compendium of all the information actually necessary for their domestic comfort.

THE AUTHORESS.