

**THE SUCCESSFUL POLE-  
CLIMBER: A MEMOIR  
OF JOHN MILCOX**

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The Successful Pole-Climber: A Memoir of John Milcox by Alfred Hackhouse

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**ALFRED HACKHOUSE**

**THE SUCCESSFUL POLE-  
CLIMBER: A MEMOIR  
OF JOHN MILCOX**



THE  
SUCCESSFUL POLE-CLIMBER:

A Memoir of John Wilcox,

LATE CORPORAL NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT,

WHO DIED AT LAHORE, NORTH INDIA, IN JULY 1852.

BY

ALFRED HACKHOUSE, M.A.,

LATE CHAPLAIN ON THE BOMBAY ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HON. EAST INDIA COMPANY;  
NOW CHAPLAIN OF PERTH, TASMANIA.

Despise not thou a small thing, either for evil or for good:  
For a look may work thy ruin, or a word create thy wealth:  
Thy walking this way or that, the casual stopping or hastening,  
Hath saved life, and destroyed it, hath cast down and built up fortunes.  
Commit thy trifles unto God, for to Him nothing is trivial;  
And it is but the littleness of man that seeth no greatness in a trifle.

TUPPER'S PROVERBIAL PHILOSOPHY.

LONDON:

JAMES NISBET AND CO., 21 BERNERS STREET.  
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PAINTERS WORK.



## PREFACE.

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DIFFICULTIES incident to a colony, and to clerical life in a colonial country parish, have hitherto prevented the accomplishment of a desire which was suggested some years since by the brother-soldier who kindly supplied the writer with the interesting particulars of the last moments of the subject of this narrative, and the extracts from his journal. The little book has at length been prepared for the press, during intervals of leisure which have seldom occurred; and it is now sent forth to the world, with an earnest prayer, that "the short and simple annals" of a Christian soldier's experience, during the eight years of his spiritual life in the Australian colonies and in India, may be made profitable, not only in the army, but to members of society generally, in the different professions and ranks of life. The narrative is given as much as possible in his own words, and the extracts from his letters have been copied literally, with the exception of occasional alterations in the spelling. The parts omitted contain

allusions either to the minister who was instrumental in leading him to Christ, or to some local matters which would not be interesting to the public.

May the Divine Head of the Church be graciously pleased to bless an attempt which has been begun, continued, and ended in Him; and to Him may all praise be ascribed.

PERTH, TASMANIA, July 1860.



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## CHAPTER I.

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### *Perth, Tasmania.*

#### A SINNER SAVED BY GRACE.

AGAINST myself, lo! freely I confess,  
I am the greatest sinner ever was.  
My daily trespasses are numberless,  
I cannot bear their burden. Oh, alas!  
Woe's me that ever I did give consent  
To do those things for which my soul doth moan.  
Woe's me that I have been so negligent  
To leave undone the things I ought t' have done.  
Ah, Lord! behold my anguish, see my pain,  
My contrite heart and groans with pity hear;  
And what I do not merit to obtain  
Give for the merits of my Saviour dear.  
E'en grace to leave my sin and cleave to Thee,  
And that Thy peace may ever dwell with me.

*Ancient Devotional Poetry.*