

**A TURNING POINT
IN THE INDIAN
MUTINY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649090297

A turning point in the Indian mutiny by I. Giberne Sieveking

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

I. GIBERNE SIEVEKING

**A TURNING POINT
IN THE INDIAN
MUTINY**

A TURNING POINT IN THE INDIAN MUTINY

BY

I. GIBERNE SIEVEKING

AUTHOR OF

'MEMOIR AND LETTERS OF FRANCIS W. NEWMAN'

'Theirs is the battle! Theirs wholly,
For that Day is a day will be written in story
To the great world's end, and for ever :—
So, let them have the Spurs, and the glory'

'No man who is not endowed with a comprehensive imagination can govern
India with success . . . Dalhousie had no imagination.'
SIR JOHN KAYE

'I believe it would be better for the land in which we live, if *India*
appealed more than it does to our imagination. The interest so created
. . . would help to bridge over the gap between East
and West.'—MACPHAIL.

'The defence of Arrah may be considered one of the most remarkable feats
in Indian history.'—SIR VINCENT EYRE.

LONDON

DAVID NUTT, 57 to 59 LONG ACRE

1910



DS
478
S573t

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED
TO
THOMAS GISBORNE GORDON
IN MEMORY OF AN OLD FRIENDSHIP
IN EARLIER DAYS

1411725



PREFACE

THIS book aims at throwing a light on a very crucial time in our Empire's history.

It aims at lighting up that part of England's memory which is concerned with a certain siege which happened more than fifty years ago, lest she forget splendid deeds done by heroic Englishmen in the Indian Mutiny; men who, at out-of-the-way stations, fought against gigantic odds, with only a few troops to support them—fought, and saved their country's colours.

These were the men who held up the lamp of the Ideal high above the heads of their fellow-men. Would there were more of them here to-day in England! Men, who simply *could* not be discouraged by any amount of failure, by any amount of discouragement. They were aware of the inner meaning of those inspiring words: 'how far High Failure overleaps the bounds of low successes.' And

though for many of them, the last words that sounded in their dying ears were those of 'defeat' and 'disaster,' though the bitter taste of the fruit of War was on their lips, and ghastly sights met their eyes, theirs was the unconquerable spirit which can die, and yet remain at the supreme moment of death—*victor, in spite of all.*

To-day in the hearts of many the light of Chivalry has burned very dim; that of Reverence flickers low; while the power of Idealising lights comparatively few. The following pages are full of the deeds of some of the greatest heroes the world has ever seen; and in almost all these men the fires of Chivalry,¹ Reverence, and the power of the Ideal, allied with absolute pluck and heroism, burned high.

I should like to express my hearty thanks to those who so kindly lent me old records,

¹ To-day, as these pages go to press, I have heard of a doctor's rare act of chivalry. (I should state he was not in good financial circumstances at the time.) He had been for many weeks attending a patient at her request (though she only needed him temporarily, and was not one of his regular *clientèle*), and at the end of her illness he refused to accept any return whatever, simply because to have taken any fee, would have seemed, in his eyes, to be contrary to what he conceived to be the true spirit of Chivalry.

letters, papers and photos. Among these I would mention the names of Mr. Herwald Wake and Mr. J. C. Colvin, to both of whom I owe a *very* special debt of thanks. Also those of Major Leather, of the 5th Fusiliers, General Broadfoot, Sir George Trevelyan, Dr. Theodore Maxwell (who kindly gave me permission to use the letters of John Nicholson), Miss Lucy Wake, Miss Bax-Ironside (who most kindly allowed me access to her father's papers), Mrs. Radcliffe, Surgeon-General Sir James Thornton, K.C.B., Lady Fayrer, Mr. Stafford Bailey, Mrs. Ross Mangles, Mrs. McDonell, and many others. To one friend I am indebted for his great kindness in reading my MSS., and stating (he was one of the besieged party at Arrah) that what I have written is correct.

I. GIBERNE SIEVEKING.

EXMOUTH PLACE, HASTINGS,
February 1910.