

**INDIA AND
TIGER-HUNTING.
SERIES I. VOL. I**

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India and Tiger-Hunting. Series I. Vol. I by Julius Barras

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JULIUS BARRAS

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BY
COLONEL JULIUS BARRAS.

SERIES I.



LONDON:
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1885.

1893. e. 9

DEDICATED
TO
MAJOR W. S. HORE,
WINNER OF
THE BHEEMA CUP.

PREFACE.

ALL who, like myself, have passed twenty-eight years of their lives in the army in India, must have met with many and strange adventures, but comparatively few will take the trouble to endeavour to relate them in print. They either do not care to face the labour, which is anything but light, or they fear to be disbelieved, which is necessarily very painful. Each of these considerations might have deterred me from coming before the public; but experience has shown me that there is really no escape from either dilemma. Amongst a numerous circle of friends I am constantly called upon to 'tell a tale.' I yield, and give myself much trouble to amuse the audience, and am apparently successful in this particular. I learn, however, in the course of time, that few, if any, of the listeners believed a syllable of what they had heard. This was considerably mortifying, when I had carefully avoided even the most trivial exaggeration for the sake of heightening the effect. In vain I wrapped myself in gloomy silence, resolved never to mention a single personal experience again. This frame of mind only made people more resolved than ever to draw me

out; so, without any idea that my doings were more remarkable than those of average persons similarly situated, I at last thought the best and least tiresome course would be to write a couple of volumes, which should contain a strictly veracious account of the principal adventures of my life in the East,—an account which should not only be true, but easily capable of verification by any reader who might care to take the slightest pains to such an end.

As nothing can be more dreary than life in an Indian military cantonment, it will surprise no one to learn that sporting incidents, such as tiger-shooting, and wolf-hunting with greyhounds, will form the chief attraction of the present work. That the facts recorded may prove sufficiently exciting to interest the general reader, and yet so correctly recorded as to afford much useful information to young and consequently inexperienced sportsmen, is my object in presenting this work to the public.

TIGER-HUNTING
AND
ADVENTURES IN INDIA.

CHAPTER I.

IT is not my intention to try the reader's patience by describing exactly how and when I landed in India, or my first impression concerning the country and its people. At first I had so much to do in preparing to pass sundry examinations insisted upon by my exacting employers, that I really had no time to look at views, or to think of any sport. True, I did, during my leisure moments, try to study the characters of the four servants who formed my modest establishment, but this soon ended in my discovering that they had none—never had had any. The dozen or two written ones with which each was provided at the time I had engaged him, had been hired for the day in the Bazaar, at a cost of four annas, which is rather less than sixpence.

As soon, however, as I could, I set off into the jungles, and in them I spent as much time as was possible during the whole of my residence in India. Tiger-shooting was my

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