

**RAMBLES  
ALONG THE STYX**

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Rambles Along the Styx by J. Leach

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**J. LEACH**

**RAMBLES  
ALONG THE STYX**



# RAMBLES ALONG THE STYX.

BY

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. LEACH, C.B.

*Late of the Rifle Brigade.*

AUTHOR OF

"ROUGH SKETCHES OF THE LIFE OF AN OLD SOLDIER;"

"RECOLLECTIONS AND REFLECTIONS RELATIVE TO THE DUTIES OF TROOPS  
COMPOSING THE ADVANCED CORPS OF AN ARMY;"

"FIELD SERVICES OF THE RIFLE BRIGADE, FROM ITS FIRST FORMATION TO  
THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO;"

"THOUGHTS ON VARIOUS MILITARY SUBJECTS;"

*do. do.*



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1847.

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LITTLE POLTERNEY STREET.

## DEDICATION.

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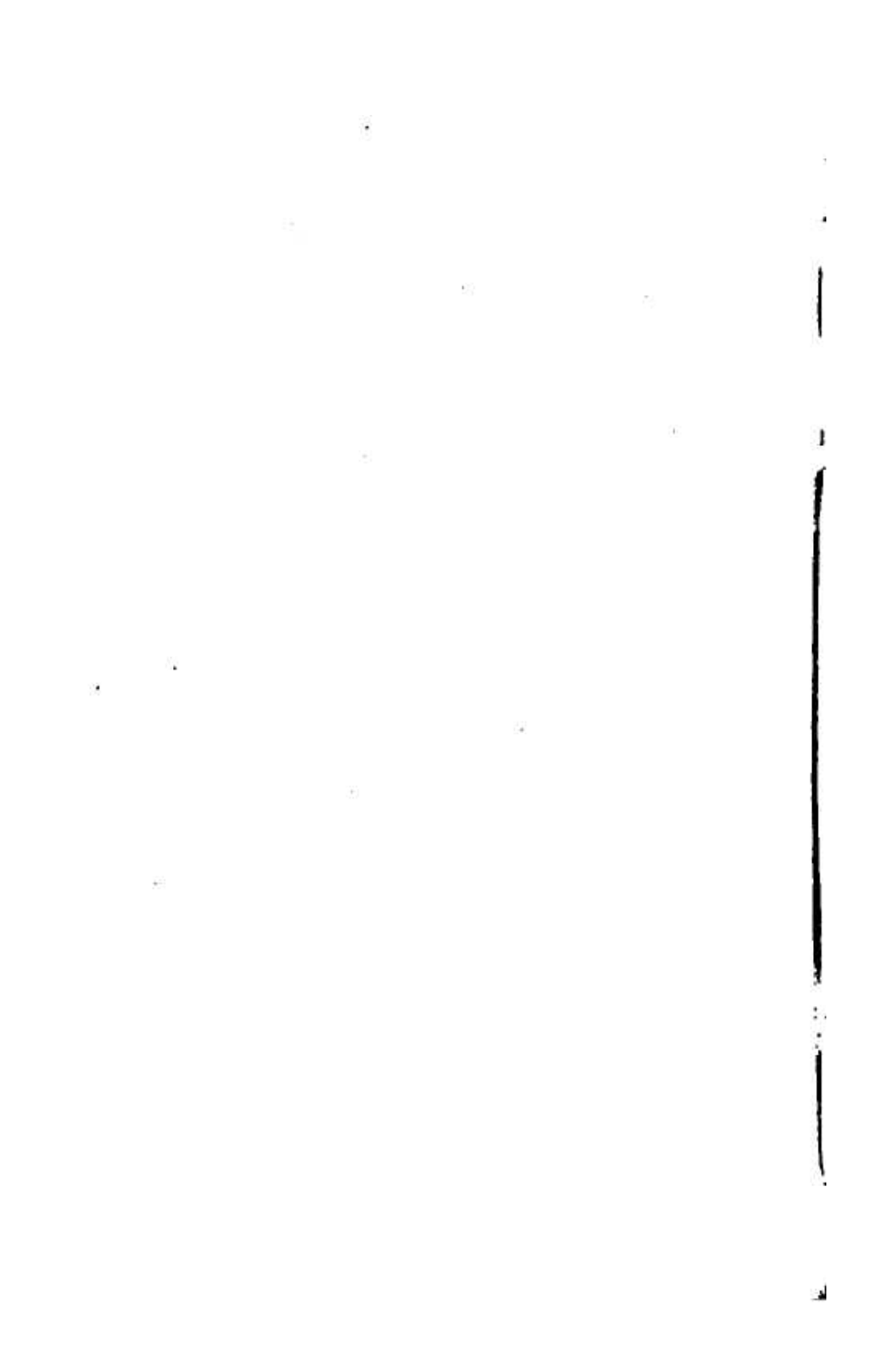
TO THE

SURVIVORS OF THE PENINSULAR ARMY

**I Dedicate this little Book.**

LONG MAY THEY KEEP OUT  
OF OLD CHARON'S CLUTCHES; AND  
WHEN THE DAY FOR EMBARKATION IN HIS  
FERRY-BOAT ARRIVES, MAY THEY BE REUNITED  
ON THE OPPOSITE BANK OF THE STYX TO THEIR OLD  
COMPANIONS IN ARMS, TENS OF THOUSANDS OF WHOM WERE  
HURRIED PREMATURELY ACROSS THAT RIVER BY THE MUS-  
KETRY, GRAPE-SHOT, AND SABRES OF THE BRAVEST AND  
MOST FORMIDABLE ENEMY THE BRITISH ARMY  
EVER ENCOUNTERED, BUT OVER WHOM  
IT WAS INVARIABLY VICTORIOUS.

J. LEACH.





## PREFACE.

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As most books have a Preface, mine must have one also; but it shall be short, and I hope to the purpose.

The following "*Rambles*" were published at different periods in the "Naval and Military Gazette." They are colloquies between old soldiers who are supposed to have met in the Stygian shades, and discussed various subjects with which they were conversant before their departure from *this* bank of the Styx.

Some of the stories are *perfectly true*; and this the Author can vouch for, he having taken a particularly active part in promoting the curious pastimes therein related.

In those which are entirely free from fiction a remark to that effect is made at the commencement of the chapter.

Several of the characters introduced will probably be recognised by some of the old Peninsular Soldiers, and especially by the remnant of the Light Division of that Army, if, indeed, this little book happens to meet their eye.

Amongst the more grave and matter-of-fact discussions, the Author flatters himself, will be found some plain and wholesome *truths*, which, however, he is neither vain nor silly enough to believe will be listened to, or acted upon, by the "powers that be," but which are, nevertheless, incontrovertible.

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