

**TOLD IN THE VERANDAH:
PASSAGES IN THE LIFE OF
COLONEL BOWLONG, SET
DOWN BY HIS ADJUTANT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649292424

Told in the verandah: passages in the life of Colonel Bowlong, set down by his adjutant by Anonymous

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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ANONYMOUS

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TOLD IN THE VERANDAH

... telling some prodigious tale
Of knights who sliced a red life bubbling way
Thro' twenty folds of twisted dragon, held
All in a gap-mouth'd circle his good mates
Lying or sitting round him."

GARETH AND LYNETTE.

P. V. Hop

TOLD IN THE VERANDAH: *97*

PASSAGES IN THE LIFE OF COLONEL
BOWLONG, SET DOWN BY HIS ADJUTANT.

by
Lieut.-Colonel Freming

LONDON:
LAWRENCE & BULLEN,
16, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.
1892.

LONDON :
PRINTED BY WOODFALL AND KINDER,
70 TO 76, LONG ACHE, W.C.

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With one exception, the tales here collected have appeared in the *Madras Mail*. For permission to republish them I am indebted to the Editor.

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THE
FIERY CROSS OF CHURRUCKPORE.



26 THE long Indian day had blazed itself out ; a soft breeze stirred the passion-flowers in the trellis-work ; and the clear tropical moonlight streaming through leaf and tendril made the ends of our cheroots glow red and dull like expiring gas-jets subdued by electric light. It was after mess, and we were sitting in the verandah smoking, and talking shop.

“ The best formation for repelling a converging attack,” observed Colonel Bowlong, “ is a cross.”

Whereupon his hearers experienced a sensation of the happiest anticipation. The Colonel was a perpetual source of gratification to the regiment ; whether he discoursed upon war, love, travel, or the chase, he was never commonplace, he was seldom prosy, but, I must add that when the exigencies of the narrative appeared to demand it, he was not scrupulously nice in the accuracy of his details. Yet, in spite of this acknowledged