

**IN MEMORIAM.
WALTER
EWEN TOWNSEND**

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In memoriam. Walter Ewen Townsend by A. M. Townsend

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A. M. TOWNSEND

**IN MEMORIAM.
WALTER
EWEN TOWNSEND**



*Your very loving son.
Walter.*

In Memoriam.

Walter Ewen Townsend.

Born at Yokohama, Japan,	=	=	=	1879
Died there,	=	=	=	1900

"One crowded hour of a glorious life
Is worth an age without a name,"

—Scott.

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PREFACE.

THIS book is printed for private circulation, and for presentation to those who, holding WALTER EWEN TOWNSEND'S memory in affection and honor, may desire to possess some record of his brief but interesting career.

It consists chiefly of extracts from some of his "Home-Letters," which, although never written for publication, are now thus printed, partly because they seem accurately to reflect his bright, affectionate and manly disposition, and partly because, as concerning the dramatic events of China's recent history, they are deemed to be of sufficient interest for preservation in more permanent form.



INTRODUCTION.

WALTER EWEN TOWNSEND, son of Alfred Markham and Mary Alice Townsend, was born at Yokohama, Japan, on the 19th of February, 1879. The following year his parents moved to New York, U. S. A., where they have since lived and where he passed the earlier years of his life.

Walter, at ten years old, was sent for a short time to a school in Canada. In the intervals of the customary schoolboy education he became proficient in the characteristic games of the locality, and learned to swim and manage a canoe, and thus acquired that keen interest in manly sports of all kinds which he ever afterward maintained. In 1891 he joined the college at Inverness, Scotland, and in the following year entered Marlborough College, where he found very congenial surroundings. Here he made many warm and lasting friendships, and thoroughly entered into the life of the school, with which he was ever after proud to have been identified. He joined the school rifle

corps, of which he became a sergeant, and was also active in the sports and games of his time. Having always wished for a career in the Government employment in the East, he determined to try to obtain an appointment in H. B. M.'s China Consular service. As such appointments are much sought after and may be secured only through open competitive examinations, success in this effort was not to be expected except by most persevering study. Accordingly he seriously embarked in the work of preparation, and went to Germany for a year, and afterwards to France, to acquire the necessary knowledge of both French and German languages. Joining Mr. Scoones' classes in London for another year, Walter found in the Spring of 1899, somewhat to his surprise and great delight, that he was successful in the competition then recently held, for one of the five appointments in the China consular service, and was soon thereafter ordered to join the British Legation at Peking as a student interpreter.

By special permission of the Foreign Office he was allowed to proceed to Peking *via* the Canadian Pacific Railway, and to spend six weeks incidentally, while *en route*, with his family at their Summer camp, on Stoney Lake in Canada.

After this happy reunion and holiday, Walter proceeded directly to his post in China, and the