RULES OF INDIA: EARL CANNING

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Rules of India: Earl Canning by Sir H. S. Cunningham

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SIR H. S. CUNNINGHAM

RULES OF INDIA: EARL CANNING



Rulers of India

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RULERS OF INDIA

Earl Canning

By SIR H. S. CUNNINGHAM, K.C.I.E.

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PREFACE

I have to acknowledge my obligations, in the preparation of the following sketch, to the late Earl Granville, who was good enough to give me some notes of his recollections of Lord Canning's early life. and to criticise the biographical portion of the work: to Mr. Lewin Bowring, C.S.I., who kindly placed at my disposal the Diary which he kept while he was Private Secretary to Lord Canning: to General Charles Stuart, who allowed me the use of his Journal kept during his term of office as Military Secretary; and to Lady Lawrence for the perusal of an interesting correspondence between Lord Canning and Lord Lawrence. The elaborate history of the Indian Mutiny, begun by Sir John Kaye, and completed by Colonel Malleson, and the latter author's shorter and more recent work on the same subject, are authorities which I have frequently consulted and to which I am largely indebted.

H. S. C.

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NOTE

The orthography of proper names follows the system adopted by the Indian Government for the Imperial Gazetter of India. That system, while adhering to the popular spelling of very well-known places, such as Punjab, Lucknow, &c., employs in all other cases the vowels with the following uniform sounds:—

a, as in woman; d, in father: i, as in police: i, as in intrigue: o, as in cold: a, as in ball: b, as in sare: e, as in grey.

EARL CANNING

FIRST VICEROY OF BRITISH INDIA

CHAPTER I

THE ARGUMENT

INDIA has added a thrilling chapter to the Englishman's national romance - a chapter which more, perhaps, than any other in our annals, abounds in interest and pathos-in dark, tragic scenes, strange episodes—the success of splendid daring—the supremacy of the constant mind over adverse fate-the determined mood which gains reinforcement from hope and consolation from despair. It has been the arena in which the qualities which Englishmen most prize in themselves and their fellow-countrymen have been exhibited on a grand scale—the iron will—the unwavering purpose-the practical aptitude for the management of human affairs-long-enduring fortitude -devotion to duty-the generous contagion of selfsacrifice, when courage glows into heroism and the commonplace becomes sublime.

With no original design which looked beyond a mercantile profit, the warding off of imminent danger, or the coercion of a troublesome rival, the English found themselves, after a century of unexampled