

**RULERS OF INDIA.
WARREN HASTINGS AND
THE FOUNDING OF THE
BRITISH ADMINISTRATION**

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Rulers of India. Warren Hastings and the founding of the British administration by L. J. Trotter

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L. J. TROTTER

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Rulers of India

EDITED BY

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WARREN HASTINGS

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RULERS OF INDIA

Warren Hastings

*AND THE FOUNDING OF THE BRITISH
ADMINISTRATION*

By CAPTAIN L. J. TROTTER

AUTHOR OF 'INDIA UNDER VICTORIA,' ETC.

SEVENTH THOUSAND

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NOTE

The orthography of proper names follows the system adopted by the Indian Government for the *Imperial Gazetteer 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:—

α, as in woman: ó, as in father: í, as in police: ï, as in intrigue:
e, as in cold: u, as in bull: ú, as in sure: e, as in grey.

PREFACE



DURING the present year three folio volumes of 'Letters, Despatches and other State Papers preserved in the Foreign Department of the Government of India, 1772—1785,' have been printed by Authority, under the careful editing of Mr. George W. Forrest. The period covers the entire rule of Warren Hastings. The present volume endeavours to exhibit in a popular form the actual work of that great Governor-General, as reviewed from the firm standpoint of the original records which Mr. Forrest has now made available to students of Indian history.

August, 1890.

CHAPTER I

FROM CHURCHILL TO CALCUTTA

1732-1761

WARREN HASTINGS, the first Governor-General of British India, was born at Churchill in Oxfordshire on the 6th December, 1732. A few miles off, across the Worcestershire border, lay the manor of Daylesford, which had belonged to Warren's forefathers from the days of Henry II down to the first years of George II. One conspicuous member of the family was that Lord Hastings, whose loyal services to the House of York were requited by Richard III with a violent death. On his successor Henry VII bestowed the Earldom of Huntingdon, a title which ere long fell dormant until, in 1819, the right to bear it was confirmed to Francis Hastings, as lineal descendant of the second Earl. From another branch of the same stock had sprung the Earls of Pembroke, one of whom followed the banner of the Black Prince in the war between Peter the Cruel and his brother Henry of Castile.

At the close of the great civil war which cost our first Charles both crown and life, the fortunes of the Daylesford family had undergone a sad eclipse.