

**THE CAMBRIDGE MANUALS  
OF SCIENCE AND LITERATURE.  
NAVAL WARFARE. WITH AN  
INTRODUCTION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649655663

The Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature. Naval Warfare. With an Introduction by James R. Thursfield & Sir Charles L. Ottley

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JAMES R. THURSFIELD & SIR CHARLES L. OTTLEY**

**THE CAMBRIDGE MANUALS  
OF SCIENCE AND LITERATURE.  
NAVAL WARFARE. WITH AN  
INTRODUCTION**



---

The Cambridge Manuals of Science and  
Literature

NAVAL WARFARE

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

London: FETTER LANE, E.C.

C. F. CLAY, MANAGER



Edinburgh: 100 PRINCES STREET

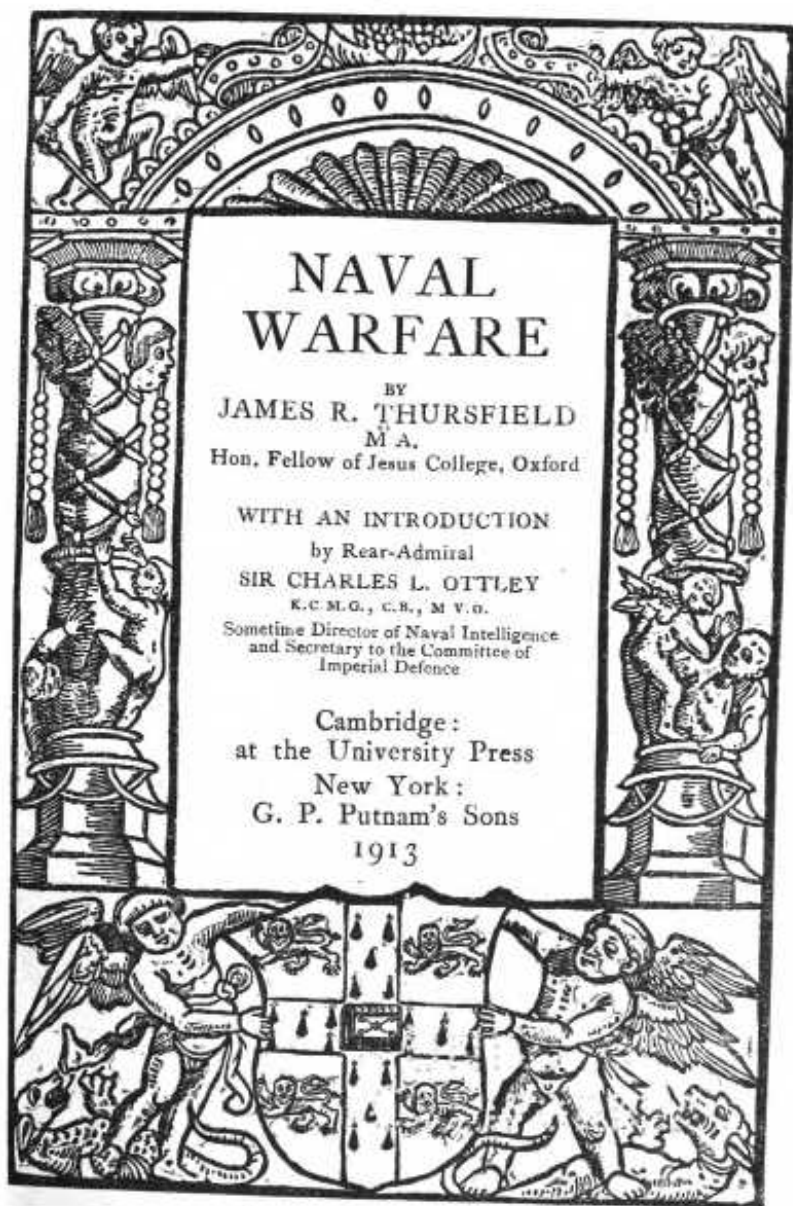
Berlin: A. ASHER AND CO.

Leipzig: F. A. BROCKHAUS

New York: G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

Bombay and Calcutta: MACMILLAN AND CO., Ltd.

*All rights reserved*



# NAVAL WARFARE

BY  
JAMES R. THURSFIELD  
M. A.  
Hon. Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

by Rear-Admiral  
SIR CHARLES L. OTTLEY

K. C. M. G., C. B., M. V. O.  
Sometime Director of Naval Intelligence  
and Secretary to the Committee of  
Imperial Defence

Cambridge:  
at the University Press  
New York:  
G. P. Putnam's Sons

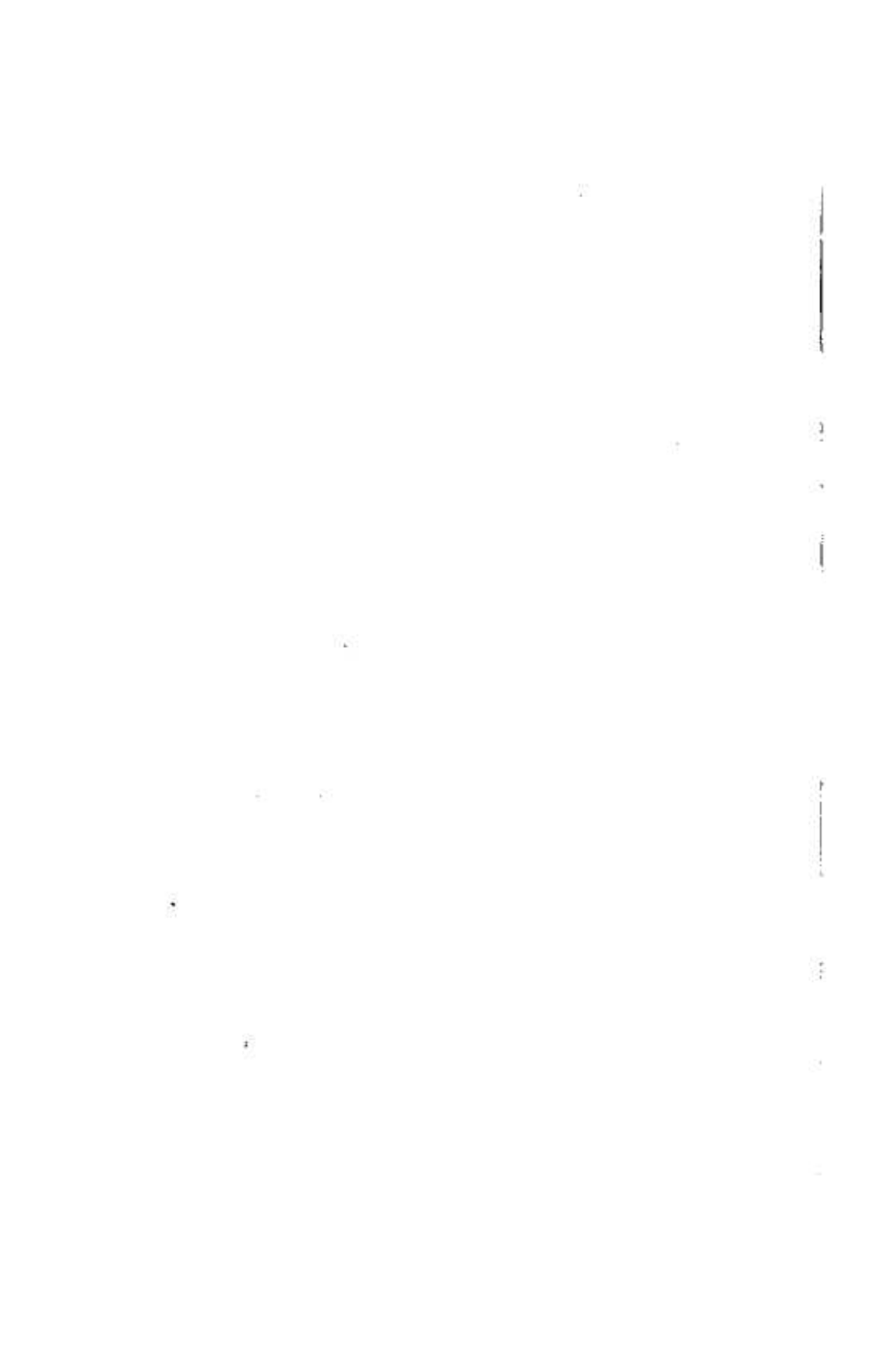
1913

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION BY SIR CHARLES OTTLEY . . . . .	vii
PREFACE . . . . .	xiii
CHAP.	
I. INTRODUCTORY . . . . .	1
II. THE COMMAND OF THE SEA . . . . .	11
III. DISPUTED COMMAND—BLOCKADE . . . . .	20
IV. DI-PUTED COMMAND—THE FLEET IN BEING . . . . .	30
V. DISPUTED COMMAND IN GENERAL . . . . .	49
VI. INVASION . . . . .	68
VII. COMMERCE IN WAR . . . . .	93
VIII. THE DIFFERENTIATION OF NAVAL FORCE . . . . .	111
IX. THE DISTRIBUTION AND SUPPLY OF NAVAL FORCE . . . . .	129
INDEX . . . . .	147

599577





---

## INTRODUCTION

THE title chosen by its author for this little volume would assuredly commend it to the Naval Service, even if that author's name were not—as it is—a household word with more than one generation of naval officers. But to such of the general public as are not yet familiar with Mr Thursfield's writings a brief word of introduction may perhaps be useful. For the matters herein dealt with are by no means of interest only to the naval profession. They have their bearing also on every calling and trade. In these days when national policy is at the mercy of the ballot-box, it is not too much to say that a right understanding of the principles of maritime warfare is almost as desirable amongst civilians as amongst professional sailors.

Regrettable indeed would it be if the mere fact that this little book bears a more or less technical title should tempt the careless to skip its pages or pitch it to that dreary limbo which attends even the best of text-books on subjects which we think do not concern us. The fruits of naval victory, the calamities attendant on naval defeat are matters

which will come home—in Bacon's classic phrase—to the business and the bosoms of all of us, landmen and seamen alike. Most Englishmen are at least dimly aware of this. They realise, more or less reluctantly perhaps, that a decisive British defeat at sea under modern conditions would involve unspeakable consequences, consequences not merely fatal to the structure of the Empire but destructive also of the roots of our national life and of the well-being of almost all individuals in these islands.

Elementary prudence insists on adequate safeguards against evils so supreme, and amongst those safeguards the education of the people to-day occupies a foremost place. Our Empire's destinies for good and evil are now in the hands of the masses of the people. Sincerely as all lovers of ordered freedom may rejoice in this devolution of political power to the people, thoughtful men will be apt to reflect that an uninstructed crowd is seldom right in its collective action. If Ministerial responsibility has dwindled, *pro tanto* that of each one of His Majesty's lieges has enormously increased; and it is more incumbent on the nation's rank and file to-day than ever in the past to equip themselves with the knowledge necessary to enable them to record their votes aright.

It is from this point of view that this Manual should be read. It epitomises the principles upon