

**THE TRUE TEMPER OF
EMPIRE; WITH
COROLLARY ESSAYS**

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The true temper of empire; with corollary essays by Sir Charles Bruce

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SIR CHARLES BRUCE

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EMPIRE; WITH
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THE TRUE TEMPER OF EMPIRE



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THE TRUE TEMPER OF EMPIRE

WITH COROLLARY ESSAYS



BY

SIR CHARLES BRUCE, G.C.M.G.

LATE GOVERNOR OF MAURITIUS, OF THE WINDWARD ISLANDS, ETC.
AUTHOR OF "THE BROAD STONE OF EMPIRE."

We have seen attempts, in the lifetime of some of us here to-night, attempts in Continental Europe, to govern by pure repression. Has one of them really succeeded? They have all failed. There may be now and again a spurious resemblance of success, but in truth they have all failed.

VISCOUNT MORLEY OF BLACKBURN

*Address to Indian Civil Service,
July, 1906.*

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NOTE

I DEFINE the true temper of Empire as a temper which mingles wisely and in fit proportions the sovereignty of the central authority with the liberties of the constituent areas. In the essay which gives its title to this volume and in the corollary essays, except the last, I have discussed the operation of this temper in the maintenance of an United Empire; in the last I have discussed the operation of the same temper in the maintenance of an United Kingdom.

I do not regret that, in presenting in a collective form essays addressed to a variety of audiences or readers, it has been found impossible to avoid repetition in the statement of principles and imperial declarations of policy, such as Queen Victoria's Proclamation to the Princes and Peoples of India in 1858. In such declarations is to be found the creed of the new Imperialism, and a solemn renunciation of the creed of the old that it is the duty of the sovereign authority to impose its will on the constituent areas, and that as

between them might is right. I would have an authorised litany of such declarations prepared for use in the ceremonial observances of Empire Day all over the Empire.

AFTER this Note had been passed for the press, the King-Emperor's Proclamation at the Durbar, transferring the seat of government from Calcutta to Delhi, was published. It marks a stage of advance in the policy of strengthening the sovereign authority by the devolution of power to the constituent areas in all matters of local concern. It is a recognition that the supreme function of Imperial statesmanship is to convert the spirit of nationality, with its pride of national traditions, from a separating to a connecting force. Every essay in this volume is a vindication of the principle underlying the Proclamation.

13th December, 1911.

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