

**THE COLLECTED
WORKS OF
ENSIGN SOPHT**

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The Collected Works of Ensign Sopht by Robert Michael Ballantyne

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ROBERT MICHAEL BALLANTYNE

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WORKS OF
ENSIGN SOPHT**

THE COLLECTED WORKS
OF ENSIGN SOPHT

LATE OF THE VOLUNTEERS



ILLUSTRATED

BY HIMSELF

EDITED BY R. M. BALLANTYNE

LONDON: JAMES NISBET & CO., 21 BERNERS STREET

1881.

251. 9. 242.



PREFACE

TO

THE COLLECTED WORKS.

MODESTY—or something else—being an unconquerable element in the character of my old friend Sopht, he is not content with my editing this volume of his collected works, but insists on my writing a preface for it.

This I most willingly do, chiefly because I have nothing to say. Every argument against the publication of the book that I could think of has been brought to bear without effect. That strength of will which has marked my friend's career from first to last, and which his enemies designate by another expression, has enabled him to withstand alike my arguments and entreaties.

The result is that the "Collected Works" are now issued, in the earnest hope that a discrimi-

nating Public may find some grains of gold, which I, in my labour of love, have failed to discover, and that Reviewers may not expend on them too much of their unmerciful malignity.

It will be observed that the drill referred to by my friend the Ensign, in this book, is that which was practised in the early days of the movement, but this will not render his meaning less clear to the average Volunteer intellect.

R. M. B.

HARROW, 1881.

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HOW NOT TO DO IT.

A Manual for the Aboard Squad ;

OR

A HANDBOOK OF DIRECTIONS
WRITTEN FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF RAW RECRUITS

IN OUR

RIFLE VOLUNTEER REGIMENTS.

BY ENSIGN SOPHT.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY HIMSELF.