

**A WIDOW'S
REMINISCENCES OF THE
SIEGE OF LUCKNOW**

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A Widow's Reminiscences of the Siege of Lucknow by Katherine Mary Bartrum

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KATHERINE MARY BARTRUM

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WIDOW'S REMINISCENCES

OF THE

SIEGE OF LUCKNOW.

Gone ! are ye then all gone ?
The good, the beautiful, the kind, the dear,
Passed to your glorious rest so swiftly on,
And left me weeping here.

Into the haven passed,
They anchor far beyond the scathe of ill ;
While the stern billow and the reckless blast,
Are mine to cope with still.

LONDON :

JAMES NISBET & Co., 21, BERNERS STREET.

MDCCLXVIII.

226. f. 4.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
ROBERT HENRY BARTRUM,
BENGAL MEDICAL SERVICE,
BORN AUGUST 16TH, 1831,
KILLED AT THE RELIEF OF LUCKNOW,
SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1857:

ALSO OF
ROBERT SPILSBURY BARTRUM,
ONLY CHILD OF THE ABOVE
ROBERT HENRY BARTRUM AND KATHERINE MARY,
HIS WIFE,
BORN FEBRUARY 17TH, 1856, DIED FEBRUARY 11TH, 1858.

" Is it well with thy Husband ?
Is it well with thy Child ?
And she answered, It is well."

2 Kings, iv. 28.

PREFACE.

It is not the wish of the writer of this little Volume, any more than it is in her power, to draw, in glowing colours, a picture of sights and scenes through which it has been her lot to pass, but merely, at the desire of her friends, to give in simple truthfulness a detail of those domestic occurrences which fell immediately under her own observation during the siege of Lucknow, to show how wonderfully she was protected in perils and dangers of no ordinary kind, and how, when called to drink deeply of the cup of human sorrow, the arm of the Lord was her stay, a "rock of defence in the day of trouble."

Bath, November, 1858.

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CHAPTER I.

Letters written from Gonda—Letter of 29th May, after hearing news of the Outbreak at Meerut and Delhi—Alarm of Mutiny at the neighbouring Station of Fyzabad—Letter of 30th May—Alarm at Gonda—Police Sowars shew signs of rising—Small chance of Escape—Ladies ordered to be sent to Lucknow—Part from my Husband—Terror of Flight—Alone with Sepoy guard—Overtake Secrora Fugitives—Rest at Ramnuggur—Reach Lucknow.

IN order to the full understanding of the following short narrative, it will be needful for me to state that at the commencement of the mutiny in the Indian native army, my late husband and myself were stationed with our child at Gonda, a military station in Oude, about eighty miles from Lucknow, where, after several changes since our arrival in India, we had been living for the last eight months the peaceful and retired life of an Indian officer's family in an up-country sta-