

**TALES OF MY
FATHER, AND
MY FRIENDS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649717774

Tales of My Father, and My Friends by Anonymous

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

ANONYMOUS

**TALES OF MY
FATHER, AND
MY FRIENDS**

194 G4.29.10

HARVARD COLLEGE
LIBRARY

Bought from the gifts
of
Friends of the Library

0

TALES

OF

MY FATHER,

AND

MY FRIENDS.

LONDON :
PRINTED FOR T. AND G. UNDERWOOD, FLEET STREET;
AND MACREDIE, SKELLY, AND CO., EDINBURGH.

1823.

19464.29.10
v

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
THE GIFT OF
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
Mar 18, 1930

LONDON:

PRINTED BY J. MOYES, GREVILLE STREET.

4-126
3187
-25

CONTENTS.

	Page
SIR EDGAR BOYD	1
INTRODUCTION TO THE TALE OF MORELAND...	62
MORELAND	74
ALAVIA	117
TOURIST'S TALE	148

T A L E S,

ETC. ETC.

SIR EDGAR BOYD.

I WAS about eighteen years of age when I quitted the paternal roof. A distant relative of my father's, an East India director, had promised to take me under his protection, and obtain for me a respectable situation.

Though my father possessed no rank, and but a very moderate share of wealth, he had the spirit and bearing of a gentleman, and endeavoured to form me after his own model. The first masters were employed in my education, and none of those accomplishments were neglected which are requisite to enable a young man to appear with advantage in polite society. My talents were not despicable; and I was taught never to underrate them. "Deprive genius of the pride which it feels in its own power," my father was wont to observe, "and you destroy the surest incitement to exertion. A justly modified self-complacency is the ground-

work of all excellence: the conviction that we are superior to others, is ever connected with the thought that more is expected of us." I was thus but ill qualified to act the part of a dependent.

I found Mr. Somerville, my protector, to be a kind-hearted, well-meaning, indolent sort of a man. When I called upon him, after my arrival in London, he insisted that I should reside with him, and not at an inn, as I intended. In his house I remained upwards of two months, without his procuring any situation for me. He thought nothing of the future himself, and he could see no propriety in my distressing myself about it. "I am very happy in your company, Edgar," he would say, when I urged him to exertion; "it can matter very little to you whether you get an appointment now or a month hence: it is long ere the fleet sails."

About a week before the fleet was to sail, my friend roused himself from his indolence, and waited upon his brother directors, to solicit for me an appointment to a place of trust and emolument which he knew to be vacant, and which he had made me certain I should obtain. He found, however, that a majority of their votes had been previously promised to another applicant. On acquainting me with this disappointment, Mr. Somerville proposed that I should

remain with him till next season, as there was little probability of success in going out to India without a previous appointment. But I was too much disgusted with my dependent and inactive state to continue longer in it; and he having provided me with letters of introduction to his friends in India, I left England as a cadet.

Nothing particular occurred in the passage out. The weather was fine, and the officers of the ship, with my fellow passengers, formed a very agreeable society, so that the time passed not unpleasantly with me, though I occasionally felt a tedium from which landmen cannot be always exempt during a long voyage.

On my arrival at Bengal I delivered my letters of introduction, and met with a friendly reception from most of those to whom they were addressed. A person who has never been out of Britain can form no idea of the warmth which animates the society of our countrymen in the east. At home we are surrounded with friends and relatives; we look upon a stranger with a jealous eye, as one who intrudes upon our habits, and deranges old established forms; our sympathy is feeble, from the numbers of those amongst whom it is divided, and we do not willingly part with any share of it to a new claimant. But in India the British are a handful in the midst of Asiatic multitudes; their affection has few to embrace, and is ren-