

**SELECTED WRITINGS OF THE LATE
WILLIAM MOORSOM LAURENCE,
MAJOR COMMANDING LEFT
WING KIMBERLEY HORSE AND
EDITOR OF THE "DIAMOND NEWS"**

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Selected Writings of the Late William Moorsom Laurence, Major Commanding Left Wing
Kimberley Horse and Editor of The "Diamond News" by Richard Slater

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RICHARD SLATER

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OF THE LATE

WILLIAM MOORSOM LAURENCE,

MAJOR COMMANDING LEFT WING KIMBERLEY HORSE
AND EDITOR OF THE "DIAMOND NEWS."

Non hæc, O Palla, dederas promissa parenti,
Cantius ut sævo velles te credere Marti:

• • • • •
Primitiæ iuvenis miseræ, bellique propinqui
Dura rudimenta.

VERG. *Æn.*

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TO MY MOTHER

THIS IMPERFECT RECORD
OF THE BRIGHTEST AND BRAVEST
OF HER SONS
IS LOVINGLY INSCRIBED.

Multas per gentes et multa per aequora uectus
Aduenio has miseras, frater, ad inferias,
Vt te postremo donarem munere mortis
Et mutam nequicquam alloquerer cinerem.
Quandoquidem fortuna mihi tete abstulit ipsum,
Heu miser indigne frater adempte mihi,
Nunc tamen interea haec prisco quae more parentum
Tradita sunt tristi munere ad inferias,
Accipe fraterno multum manantia fletu,
Atque in perpetuum, frater, aue atque uale.

CATULLUS, CARM. CI.

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INTRODUCTION.

Yea, and will Fortune pick out, now and then,
The best to be the anvils of her blows :
Great names are scarce, and yet indeed who knows
What greater souls have perished 'neath the stroke
Of careless Fate? Purlind are most of folk,
The happy are the great ones of the earth
Who ever give small heed to hapless worth :
So goes the world, and this we needs must bear,
Like eld and death ; yet were there some men there
Who drank in silence to the memory
Of those who failed on earth great men to be,
Though better than the men who won the crown,

MORRIS, *Earthly Paradise*.

IN the following pages will be found a selection from the writings of the late Major Laurence, preceded by a brief obituary notice. The first part consists of letters written during the Zulu War, some of which were published at the time in the London press. The second part contains a series of letters written from Thlotse Heights, in the Leribe District, during the Basuto War. All of these have been previously published in the *Diamond News*, and one or two of them in various colonial papers. In the third part will be found a few miscellaneous writings which it is thought that some of Major Laurence's friends may be glad to possess in a permanent form. At the end of the volume will be found an Appendix, containing some