

**ETONIANA ANCIENT AND
MODERN, BEING NOTES OF
THE HISTORY AND TRADITIONS
OF ETON COLLEGE**

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Etoniona Ancient and Modern, Being Notes of the History and Traditions of Eton College by
William L. Collins

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WILLIAM L. COLLINS

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P R E F A C E.

THESE pages may perhaps meet with some indulgence from Eton men and from the general public, as being the first attempt (so far as I am aware) to collect the history and traditions of our greatest public school. The collection is fragmentary and imperfect; and although some pains have been taken to avoid errors, too many will probably be found.

But these few words of preface have another object than apology. They give me the opportunity of expressing my lively sense of the courtesy and kindness with which Etonians, old and young (to most of whom I was personally unknown), have helped me in my work—without which help this little volume could not have been put together. I can heartily endorse the words of one of the Royal

Commissioners' witnesses—I have found Eton men “very pleasant to deal with.”

To the PROVOST of ETON my thanks are especially due, not only for permission to consult some of the College records, but also for valuable notes and extracts most kindly made from such of them as I had not opportunity to examine. Amongst the many others to whom I am indebted, I may be allowed here to name ROBERT CRAWFURD, Esq.; the Rev. THOMAS BROCKLEBANK; EDMOND WARRE, Esq.; HENRY STAPYLTON, Esq. (whose ‘Eton Lists’ have been most useful as a reference, and who has obliged me with much information besides); the Rev. WALTER S. HALLIDAY, and GEORGE GILBERT TREHERNE, Esq. The most interesting pages of ‘Etoniana’ will be those in which some of my correspondents are allowed to speak in their own words. I most willingly say to each, speaking for such parts of my little book, “*Si placeo, tuum est.*”

While acknowledging the value of such assistance, I desire to be held alone responsible for any statement of fact or opinion.

W. L. C.

July 1865.

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