

**ANGLO-INDIAN PRIZE POEMS, BY
NATIVE AND ENGLISH WRITERS,
COMMEMORATION OF THE VISIT
OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS; THE
PRINCE OF WALES TO INDIA**

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Anglo-Indian Prize Poems, by Native and English Writers, Commemoration of the Visit of His Royal Highness; The Prince of Wales to India by Various

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BY

NATIVE AND ENGLISH WRITERS,

IN COMMEMORATION OF

THE VISIT OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE PRINCE OF WALES
TO INDIA.



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PREFACE.

BEFORE the departure of the Prince of Wales for India, it became evident that the visit of His Royal Highness would greatly excite the Oriental imagination, and that many poems would be composed in his honour. Foreseeing that these compositions would prove interesting, not only on account of their peculiar Oriental character, but also as spontaneous expressions of the sentiments and feelings of the educated classes in India towards the Royal Family, it was thought desirable to offer prizes to the extent of One Hundred Guineas for a limited number of the best poems, in English or in any Indian language; upon the subject of The Royal Visit. To accomplish this the Proprietor of The Crown Perfumery Company of London took the initiative, and his offer was extensively announced in this country and throughout Hindustan. The result is that over one hundred and fifty poems have been received—more than one-third of the number from Indian authors—in Hindustani, Telugu, Tamil, Bengali, Sanskrit, Gujerati, Mahratti, Hindi, etc. It may be added that these poems have been written by Indian Portuguese, Native Christians, Brahmans, Sudras, Rajpoots, Mahommedans, and various types.

of Hindû castes, and also by Parsees and Eurasians. A few of the Indian poems are in English, and it is a fact worthy of note that two Indian prizes awarded for them were taken by English poems written by natives of India. The verses of Mr. Chuteesh Chunder Dutt and Mr. Ram Sharma will be read with interest. Among the four other Indian poems in this volume, two are published both in the original and in the English translations, precisely as furnished by the writers themselves. The remaining are the two in Sanskrit and Hindustani respectively, portions of which have already appeared in *The Athenæum*, in which the Prince of Wales is spoken of as a veritable Deity. Of the English compositions it is not necessary to speak. All the poems published in this volume have received either prizes or honourable mention. The prizes have been adjudged, as previously announced, by an eminent body of competent scholars, and the poems are printed—though not in the order of the awards—as nearly as possible, both in the originals and translations, in the precise forms in which they were furnished by the writers. The book is offered without pretension, and must be judged by its merits. It is hoped that it may be kindly received as a pleasing souvenir of one of the most interesting events of our day.

W. S. THOMSON.

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