

**PRIMITIVE BUDDHISM:
ITS ORIGIN
AND TEACHINGS**

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Primitive Buddhism: its origin and teachings by Elizabeth A. Reed

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ELIZABETH A. REED

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BY

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PREFACE.

THE philosophies of the East have often been presented to the western world during the last few years, and much interest has been awakened, especially in the subject of Buddhism. Although the number of its adherents has been greatly overestimated, still this system controls, to a greater or less extent, the thought of millions of our fellow-beings, and it is entitled to a fair and impartial examination. There are comparatively few people, however, in this busy age, who have time to make an exhaustive research on the subject, and it is thought, therefore, that a comprehensive handbook, which has been carefully prepared, will be welcome to many, who will be glad to learn, quickly and easily, what this philosophy really is.

It is not the object of the present work to follow the system in the various changes through which it has passed, or to discuss the protean forms which it has assumed in modern times, but to present, in as brief a manner as is consistent with accuracy, the