

**UP THE COUNTRY: LETTERS
WRITTEN TO HER SISTER FROM
THE UPPER PROVINCES OF
INDIA. IN TWO VOLUMES, VOL. I**

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Up the Country: Letters Written to Her Sister from the Upper Provinces of India. In Two Volumes, Vol. I by Emily Eden

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EMILY EDEN

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'UP THE COUNTRY'

VOL. I.

LONDON
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NEW-STREET SQUARE

'UP THE COUNTRY'

Letters written to her Sister

FROM

THE UPPER PROVINCES OF INDIA

BY

THE HON. EMILY EDEN

AUTHOR OF 'THE SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE' AND 'THE SEMI-ATTACHED COUPLE'

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOL. I.



LONDON

RICHARD BENTLEY, NEW BURLINGTON STREET

PUBLISHER IN ORDINARY TO HER MAJESTY

1866

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TO THE

LORD WILLIAM GODOLPHIN OSBORNE.

MY DEAR WILLIAM,

I know no one but yourself who can now take any lively interest in these letters.

She, to whom they were addressed, they of whom they were written, have all passed away, and you and I are now almost the only survivors of the large party that in 1838 left Government House for the Upper Provinces.

Many passages of this Diary, written solely for the amusement of my own family, have of course been omitted; but not a word has been added to descriptions which have little merit, but that they are true and that they were written on the spot.

Now that India has fallen under the curse of railroads, and that life and property will soon become as

insecure there, as they are here, the splendour of a Governor-General's progress is at an end.

The Kootûb will probably become a railway station; the Taj will of course, under the sway of an Agra Company (limited, except for destruction), be bought up for a monster hotel; and the Governor-General will dwindle down into a first-class passenger with a carpet-bag. These details, therefore, of a journey that was picturesque in its motley processions, in its splendid crowds, and in its 'barbaric gold and pearl,' may be thought amusing. So many changes have since taken place in Indian modes of travelling, that these contrasts of public grandeur and private discomfort will probably be seen no more, on a scale of such magnitude.

Believe me,

Ever your affectionate Aunt,

EMILY EDEN.

EDEN LODGE, KENSINGTON GARDENS:

May 1866.

' UP THE COUNTRY.'

CHAPTER I.

On board the 'Magna' flat, Saturday, Oct. 21, 1837.

'ONCE more upon the waters, yet once more,' and so on. We are now fairly off for eighteen months' of travelling by steamers, tents, and mountains—and every day of a cabin seems to me like so much waste. They ought all to go to the great account of the long voyage that will, at last, take us home again. And this cabin looks so like my 'Jupiter' abode, in all its fittings and appointments, that it is really a pity to throw its discomforts away in going farther off. Well, I am sure it is all for the best—I make no objection—I like to see things take their course; but still I *do* say, that for a person who required nothing but to be allowed the undisturbed enjoyment of that small Greenwich house and garden, with all its little Cockney pleasures and