DIARY IN CEYLON & INDIA, 1878-9

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Diary in Ceylon & India, 1878-9 by 8th Earl of Sandwich Montagu

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Trieste

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CEYLON & INDIA,

IN

1878-9.

BY

VISCOUNT HINCHINGBROOK.

Edward George Henry Montagu, 8th Earl of Sandwich

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The following pages contain a short record of my daily life during my travels in Ceylon and India. Having been entertained in a very friendly and hospitable manner by men in the highest official positions and of the most conspicuous ability throughout the country, I naturally enjoyed opportunities of gaining much information with regard to Indian polity and administration, as well as other subjects, but I have omitted any allusion to such topics, as my intention has been simply to offer extracts from my diary to any friends who may be disposed to peruse them. Religious and historical matters have been briefly referred to, when it has been necessary to explain my object in visiting places of special interest.

DIARY N

CEYLON AND INDIA,

1878-9.

CHAPTER L

VOYAGE TO CEYLON — COLOMBO — KANDY — LOGIE ELPHINSTONE — NUWARA ELIYA — PIDURU TALAGALA — RETURN TO COLOMBO.

I LEFT England on the 15th October, 1878, spent three days in Paris, and arrived on the beautiful, hot, still morning of the 20th at Marseilles at 6 a.m. Embarked at nine on board the Messageries Maritimes steamer, "Peiho," lying alongside the wharf, a magnificent vessel of 3173 tons, commanded by Captain Pasqualini. We got under weigh soon after 10 a.m.; the sea smooth as glass; a light south-west breeze. My cabine de luxe on deck is all that could be desired, roomy and airy, with four windows, containing a sofa besides the berth. The cuisine in all respects excellent. Passengers of all nationalities—Englishmen bound to Ceylon and China, French officers, monks, priests, and missionaries, Dutchmen for Java, Spaniards, Germane, Americans, Japanese, etc.—many of them very agreeable fellowpassengers.

October 21st .-- Passing north of Corsica, we are off Elba early in the morning, and anchor in the bay of Naples at 4 a.m. on

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