

Dhananjayrao Gadgil Lit



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IRELAND
UNDER THE LAND LEAGUE

I R E L A N D
U N D E R T H E L A N D L E A G U E

A NARRATIVE OF PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

BY

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LATE SPECIAL RESIDENT MAGISTRATE

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INTRODUCTION.

CHARLES DALTON CLIFFORD LLOYD, the author of this brief record of personal experience, was born at Portsmouth on the 13th January 1844, of a well-known Irish family. His father was Colonel Robert Clifford LLOYD of the 68th Durham Light Infantry, and his grandfather was Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, an office subsequently held also by his uncle, Humphrey LLOYD. His mother was a daughter of Captain George Savage of the 13th Light Dragoons, of Ballylowan, Co. Down.

Educated at Sandhurst, he was originally destined for the army, but accepted the offer of an appointment in the Burma Police, his

father's regiment being then quartered at Rangoon. Transferred from the Police to the Civil Department, he rose rapidly in the Burmese Commission to the rank of Deputy Commissioner. Returning to England on furlough, he spent his time in a diligent study of Law, was called to the English Bar, and shortly afterwards received the offer of an appointment as Resident Magistrate in Ireland. Here his energetic character soon brought him to the front, and led to his selection for the duty of restoring order in a succession of disturbed localities—a task which he accomplished with so much success that he was one of the first officers chosen for the responsible office of Special Resident Magistrate, then created in view of the unsettled state of the country. With what determination, fearlessness, and ability his duties in this capacity were discharged, is well known to all students of Irish history; but a new and clear light is thrown on the story of the dark and anxious days when the Land League was paramount in

Ireland by the plain and simple narrative of events recorded in these pages.

On the completion of his work in Ireland, Clifford LLoyd was selected for special service in Egypt, where, as Minister of the Interior, his administrative capacity was displayed in the initiation of various important reforms.

His next appointment was that of Colonial Secretary and Lieutenant-Governor of Mauritius, accepted under the impression that the then Governor (a fellow-countryman conspicuously identified with Irish political life and with the policy of Separation) was about to take leave. The position soon became untenable, and he retired temporarily from public life, until the offer of the Consulate at Erzeroum, a post of great importance in the critical condition of the Russian frontier, led him to resume active service.

During the year of his employment in Armenia he effectually championed the cause of the suffering Armenians, and did much to ameliorate their condition, his services

being warmly acknowledged by Sir W. White, Ambassador at Constantinople. Unfortunately the rigours of the climate, and hardships inseparable from Armenian travel, brought too great a strain to bear on a constitution never robust, and already tried by a life of exceptional anxiety and activity. Summoned to Constantinople in mid-winter, he fell a victim, on the return journey, to an attack of acute pneumonia, and died at Erzeroum on the 7th January 1891, at the early age of forty-seven.

Few public men have been better abused than Clifford LLOYD by political opponents; and, keenly as he felt the sting of unjust reproach, assuredly no man ever more calmly and courageously pursued the path of active duty, unmoved by the voice of calumny. But if he had many political enemies, he had no lack of devoted personal friends, and among his greatest treasures were the handsome testimonials and cordial addresses presented to him by colleagues and subordinates on the

termination of his work both in Ireland and in Egypt. The type of a loyal Irishman, Clifford LLOYD was essentially a self-made man. Without any great educational advantages, he rose to eminence simply by the force of his own energy and abilities, which were such as, had his life not been prematurely cut short, might have carried him to the highest grades of the public service.

The present record was compiled while its author was temporarily unemployed, and was reserved by him for future publication. It is now given to the public, in fulfilment of his intention, and in the belief that it may not be without salutary lessons at the present time for all who are interested in the affairs of Ireland.

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