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LIFE OF
SIR COWASJEE JEHANGHIER READYMONEY,

KT., C.S.I., &c., &c.

PREPARED BY

J. COWASJEE JEHANGHIER.

WITH PORTRAIT AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

1890

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PREFACE.



MY reason for preparing this account of the career and benevolent acts of my dear and revered father is, in addition to a feeling of filial duty and affection, the wish to preserve the memory of his good deeds among those who have benefited by them. The generation which derived direct advantage from them is passing or has passed away; and in the press of new interests and considerations it seemed possible that the claims of Sir Cowasjee Jehanghier to grateful remembrance might be forced out of sight, although his gifts were of a nature to permanently benefit the community, seeing that he dispersed in public charity the large sum of fifteen lakhs, and in private about three more. This record of his life, if it serves no other purpose, should at least preserve his memory among the citizens of Bombay and all Sir Cowasjee's many friends and admirers.

It has been a task of love to peruse the somewhat meagre materials preserved relating to his many public

donations, and to extract from them as much matter as seemed likely to be of general interest, and as would give a fair idea of the character and career of Sir Cowasjee Jehanghier. If I have succeeded in compiling a narrative that will be satisfactory to his few remaining contemporaries and interesting to the younger generation, my main object will have been attained. I may at least indulge the hope that among the great Parsee families of Bombay, and among the representatives of Sir Cowasjee's numerous friends, this biography of one of the best known and most distinguished men of his time will be allowed an honoured place in the libraries, and that its shortcomings will be pardoned for the sake of its subject.

JEHANGHIER, COWASJEE JEHANGHIER.

London, 5th March, 1890.