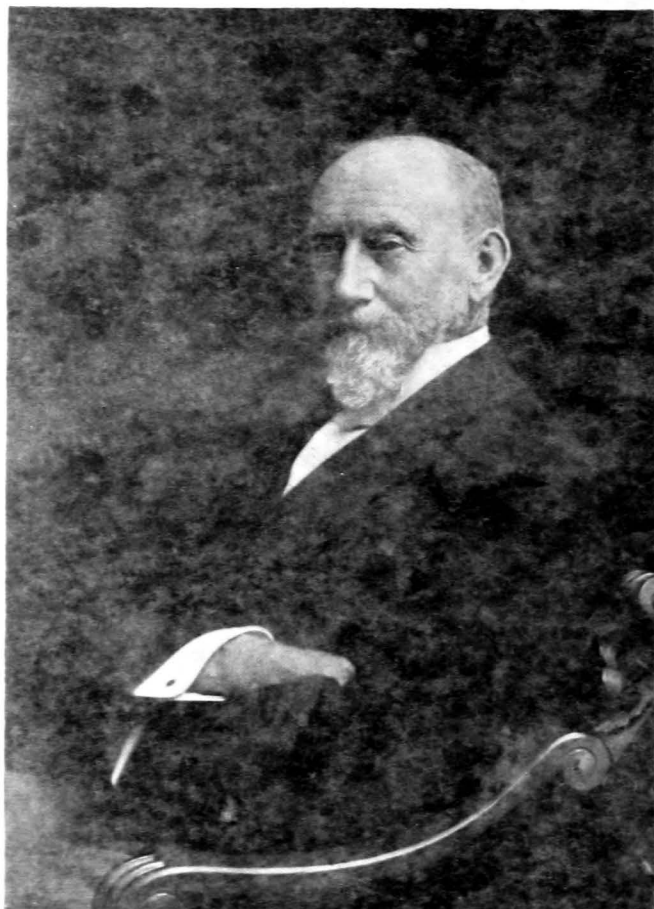


SIR WILLIAM WEDDERBURN



SIR WILLIAM WEDDERBURN, BART., 1910, ÆTAT. 72

SIR WILLIAM
WEDDERBURN

AND THE INDIAN RE-
FORM MOVEMENT

By S. K. RATCLIFFE



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PREFACE

ALL who knew Sir William Wedderburn will understand why a memoir of him must be essentially an impersonal record. His life was in his public work—first in his official service, and later in his unremitting labour on behalf of Indian Reform. This little book, accordingly, is almost entirely an account of the Indian Reform movement as initiated, encouraged, and for a long period of years guided, by Sir William Wedderburn and his associates in the Indian National Congress. Such an account is, manifestly, a necessary chapter in the history of modern India during the first stage of its momentous transition.

For the closest collaboration, especially in working over the personal records, Sir William's diaries and the documents relating to his service in India, I am indebted to my wife, without whose assistance the book, small though it is, could not have been written. My

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friend Mr. H. E. A. Cotton, C.I.E., for more than ten years Editor of *India*, and now President of the Bengal Legislative Assembly, has been good enough to read the manuscript and to make a number of valuable suggestions; my thanks are also due to Mr. Douglas Hall, of the Indian Reforms Committee, for his kind assistance in reading the proofs.

S. K. R.

2, ERSKINE HILL, LONDON, N.W. 11.

/ December, 1922.

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