



CHILDREN PLAYING A GAME IN THE SCHOOLYARD

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THE TURKS ~~IN~~ ~~INDIA~~

CRITICAL CHAPTERS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THAT COUNTRY BY THE CHUGHTAI, BÁBAR,
AND HIS DESCENDANTS

BY

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N O T E.

THIS Work has not had the advantage of a revision by its Author whilst passing through the press. Mr. Keene is at his post in India. It has not, therefore, been possible to consult his wishes on the matter of transliteration, nor could they be always gathered from the MS., which in parts had been transcribed by an amanuensis. In fairly familiar words, where no doubt as to pronunciation could arise, popular spelling has been adopted, and diacritical points have been omitted.

Mr. KEENE has wished the following intimation to be made:—

“It is not necessary to give a list of all the authorities that have been consulted in this Work. Besides original records and books in the Persian, French, English, and Spanish languages, continuous and invaluable aid has been derived from the ‘History of India,’ by Elliot and Dowson. This Work, in eight volumes, contains copious translated extracts from all the best historians of Mahamadan India, many of which are now accessible for the first time. It may, indeed, be truly said that its completion puts the subject upon an entirely new basis, and forms the best justification of the publication of the present chapters. The constant sympathy and aid of the late Principal Blochmann, M.A., of the Calcutta University, demand warm acknowledgment. His death has caused a blank in the ranks of Oriental scholarship that will not soon be filled.”

Dedicated

TO

SIDNEY OWEN, M.A.

IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HIS

VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

TO OUR KNOWLEDGE

OF

INDIAN HISTORY

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THE object of the following pages is to show, in a series of monographs, the character, epochs, and incidents in the history of the Empire established in Hindustan by the Chughtai Tartars. These chapters cover the time from the invasion of Bábar to the death of Alamgir II., and the campaign of 1760-1. An attempt has been made to show the state of the country under Mughal rule, and the reasons why, with many good qualities, the House of Taimur ultimately failed to form a durable dominion. The first article is devoted to a summary of the subject of the whole study. The second gives a brief account of the origin of the family, and the first foundation of their power south of the Himála Alps. The third displays the consolidation; the fourth and fifth exhibit the equilibrium; the sixth describes the beginnings of weakness. In the seventh and eighth are shown the hastening decomposition of the unwieldy and ill-governed Empire; while the account of the Campaign of Pánipat furnishes matter for the ninth and last. The whole will replace

the first Book of the "Fall of the Mughal Empire" by the same author, and the rest of that work will serve to complete a popular statement of the History of Hindustan for the three centuries next preceding British rule.