

ESSAYS,  
MILITARY AND POLITICAL,  
WRITTEN IN INDIA.

BY THE LATE  
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LONDON:  
W<sup>o</sup>. H. ALLEN & CO., 7, LEADENHALL STREET.  
1859.



Henry Lawrence to what is called the "Annexation Policy." He warmly advocated, on grounds alike of justice and expediency, the maintenance of the Native States of India, and deprecated all unnecessary interference with them. A different statement has been made, very ignorantly, and very unjustly, upon this point. It is of the more importance, therefore, that his opinions should be laid before the public in his own words, and that he should appear in his own proper character, not as an "annexationist," but as a teacher in that great school of which, in days gone by, Sir John Malcolm was the chief, and at the head of which, among living statesmen, now stands Sir George Clerk.



## ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Essays comprising this volume were contributed by Sir Henry Lawrence to the *Calcutta Review*. They are printed now with scarcely any alteration, beyond the correction of typographical or clerical errors, and an occasional excision or adaptation of those allusions to existing times and local circumstances, which are generally scattered, more or less, over our periodical literature, but which the lapse of years renders, if not unintelligible, unappreciable by the reader of to-day. It is not to be understood by this that there has been any attempt to adapt these Essays to the circumstances of the present times. It will be apparent after the perusal of a few pages, that there is much in them which, in one sense, may be described as "out of date." But to have expunged all references to a bygone state of things, and all recommendations of reforms which have been carried out, would have been but scant justice either to reader or to writer. For it would have diminished the historical interest of the volume, and would have obscured the services rendered by Sir Henry Lawrence to the cause of Military Reform. That many of his suggestions were acted upon, we know; that others were not, we can only deplore. That he saw clearly the

rocks on which the vessel of the State was drifting, is to be gathered from many passages in this volume. The warning voice was lifted up in vain; but much still remains from which instruction may be gathered, very serviceable at the present time. The lessons which these Essays teach us are not all too late for profitable study. We have still an Indian army composed of all arms and of all classes. Upon the constitution of this army now turns, as on a pivot, the whole question of Indian government. We must keep up an efficient army, at a certain cost not to be exceeded, or we must cease to retain our hold of the country. Now, the great object of Sir Henry Lawrence, in his *Military Essays*, is to demonstrate that what India requires is an army deriving its strength, not from its numbers, but from its efficiency. And this is the great matter which it behoves us to ponder at the present time. What we want is, not men, not money—but mind. A hundred men may be made to do the work of a thousand; a hundred pounds, wisely spent, may contribute more to the strength of our empire than a thousand. Doubtless, the cost of an efficient army might be brought within the amount which the revenues of India can bear without exhaustion, and the State can furnish without bankruptcy. But to do this, we must look very gravely at the matter, and heed the pregnant utterances of such experienced, honest, plain-spoken instructors as Sir Henry Lawrence.

Of the *Political Essays* much need not be said in this place. One observation, indeed, will suffice. The reader will perceive how consistently opposed was Sir

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