

Literary Success:
BEING
A GUIDE TO
PRACTICAL JOURNALISM.

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"TEA AND TEA-DRINKING," ETC.



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PREFACE.

IN the Spring of 1880 the writer published a small work for the benefit of literary aspirants, giving examples of men who have climbed the ladder of literature, describing their struggles, and pointing out the best ways of gaining a footing there. The book was, however, printed in semi-phonotypy, and, in consequence, was vigorously attacked by some critics; but it seemed to meet a want, and many testimonies to its usefulness were received. It involved the writer in a good deal of correspondence with persons anxious to tread the thorny paths of literature. It appeared to him, however, that the best preparation for literature was Journalism, and his advice has invariably been—"Leave the magazines alone, and lay yourselves out for newspaper work, which is not only the most sure, but the most remunerative." But Journalism, unlike most other professions, possesses no handbook. A youth who desires to enter it is without any account of the training required to achieve success in any of its branches; he does not know what books he should study, or what languages would be the most serviceable to him. In consequence of the absence of a book of this character, an attempt has been made in the following chapters to supply the want. As the work embodies the experience of reporters engaged on weekly and daily newspapers, of editors and contributors, it is hoped that the book will be

of practical value to all who contemplate entering the profession of Journalism. Whilst the work is primarily intended for literary beginners and junior reporters, the facts which it records, and the light it throws upon the labours of men engaged in the production of newspapers, will render it, perhaps, not less interesting to a wider circle of readers.

The author is indebted to Mr. W. H. Mudford, editor of the *Standard*; to Mr. T. Wemyss Reid, editor of the *Leeds Mercury*; to Mr. E. R. Russell, editor of the *Liverpool Post*, for valuable letters; and to Mr. William Hunt, editor of the *Eastern Morning News*; Mr. Philip Kerney, of the *Dublin Daily Express*; Mr. Alexander Paterson, editor of the *Barnsley Chronicle*; Mr. Cornelius Walford, Mr. C. H. Wall, Mr. T. Tully, Mr. R. Bailey Walker, for literary assistance; and to other journalists throughout England for contributions. To each of these gentlemen he tenders his best thanks.

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